



THANKSGIVING EVE
NOVEMBER 23, 2022

SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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As We Gather

The Day of Thanksgiving gives us a special time to pause, reflect, and give thanks to God for His countless blessings in our lives. Throughout your life you've probably been encouraged to count your blessings! Is that even possible? No, God's blessings are way too numerous! Even when we go through difficult and trying times—and maybe *especially* then, it's vitally important for us to remember just how richly blessed we are. In today's Epistle, we'll see how St Paul could be content even when he was experiencing times of hardship. His awareness of God's faithful provision led him to "abound" in thanksgiving! May we also abound in thanksgiving to the One who "*will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus*" (Philippians 4:19)!

Prelude

"Adagio from Violin Sonata # 3 in C Major"

J. S. Bach

Opening Hymn

"Now Thank We All Our God"

1 Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.

And keep us in His grace
And guide us when perplexed
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next!

2 Oh, may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us

3 All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns
With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

Text: Public domain

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 124:8; 130:3–4

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to listen to God's Word, call upon Him in thanksgiving and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ at His own table, let us first consider our unworthiness to be invited to the feast of our Savior and confess before Him our sins of thought, word, and deed. Together, as brothers and sisters in Christ, we turn to our gracious Lord for His pardon and peace, seeking His grace and saying, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner."

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen! Thanks be to God!

✠ WORD ✠

Introit

Psalm 104:24, 27–28, 30; antiphon: v. 33

- P** I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
C **I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**
P O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom have You made them all;
C **the earth is full of Your creatures.**
P These all look to You,
C **to give them their food in due season.**
P When You give it to them, they gather it up;
C **when You open Your hand, they are filled with good things.**
P When You send forth Your Spirit, they are created,
C **and You renew the face of the ground.**
P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
C **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

Prayer of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you
C **And also with you.**
P Let us pray together
Almighty God, Your mercies are new every morning, and You graciously provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

✠ Remember the Lord Your God ✠

Deuteronomy 8:1–10

¹“The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. ²And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. ³And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. ⁴Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. ⁵Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. ⁶So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. ⁷For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, ⁸a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, ⁹a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. ¹⁰And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Anthem of Praise

“Goodness of God”

J. Johnson

Epistle

✠ God’s Provision ✠

Philippians 4:6–20

⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. ¹⁰I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹²I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me. ¹⁴Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. ¹⁵And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. ¹⁶Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. ¹⁷Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. ¹⁸I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. ¹⁹And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

✠ Jesus Cleanses Ten Lepers ✠

Luke 17:11–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹¹On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance ¹³and lifted up their voices, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” ¹⁴When he saw them he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went they were cleansed. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; ¹⁶and he fell on his face at Jesus’ feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus answered, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? ¹⁸Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹And he said to him, “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Confession of Faith

Based on the 1st Article of the Apostles’ Creed

P Confessing faith and expressing thanks are completely linked together. In the Small Catechism, Martin Luther underscored the theme of thankfulness in his explanation of the First Article of the Creed, which focuses on God the Creator. Together we say:

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

L What does this mean? I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

C For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

L He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

C For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

L He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me.

C For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

Sermon Hymn

“We Praise You, O God”

#785

1 We praise You, O God, our Redeemer,
Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we
bring.
We lay it before You, we kneel and adore
You;
We bless Your holy name, glad praises
we sing.

2 We worship You, God of our fathers, we
bless You;
Through trial and tempest our guide
You have been.
When perils o’ertake us, You will not

forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord, our
struggles we win.

3 With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we
raise.
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm
will guide us.
To You, our great Redeemer, forever be
praise!

Text: Julia B. Cory, 1882–1963, alt.
Text: Public domain

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Thanksgiving Food Offerings given in support of our *Faith in Action* food pantry may be brought to the altar following the announcements.

Offertory Meditation - Violin Selections of Thanksgiving Hymns during the collection of food items

Monetary Offering—*may be left in the offering plates near the doors as you leave. Those worshipping at home may continue to mail or drop off offerings at the church office, and on-line giving always available on our website, even as we all eagerly await the day when we will be able to worship together again here in God’s house.*

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary...

The Lord's Prayer

- P** Hear us now as we pray together as our Lord taught us...
C Our Father who art in heaven...

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

✠ DISTRIBUTION of the SACRAMENT ✠

Hymn

"Praise and Thanksgiving"

#789

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| 1 | Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer For all things living, Created good: Harvest of sown fields, Fruits of the orchard, Hay from the mown fields, Blossom and wood. | Sowing or tilling, We would work with You, Harvesting, milling For daily bread. | |
| 2 | Bless, Lord, the labor We bring to serve You That with our neighbor We may be fed. | 3 | Father, providing Food for Your children, By Your wise guiding Teach us to share One with another, So that, rejoicing With us, all others May know Your care. |

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–84

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Anthem

"Living Hope"

P. Wickham

Hymn

“O Jesus, Blessed Lord to Thee”

#632

1 O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee
My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed
On me Thy body and Thy blood.

2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say:
What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within my heart:
How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703;

tr. Arthur J. Mason, 1851–1928

Text: Public domain

Communion Blessing

P The true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

CLOSING PRAYER

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty Father, everlasting God, that You have freely given to us the blessing of Your Son’s body and blood. As we go now from Your Table and from Your house to share in Your many blessings in our own homes and on our own tables, help us to abound in thanksgiving and love all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

Philippians 4:19–20; Numbers 6:24–26

P With confidence, St Paul told the Philippians, "My God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

C To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Dismissal

P Go in peace with thankful hearts, as you share the blessings of our Lord.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

“For the Fruits of His Creation”

#894

1 For the fruits of His creation,
Thanks be to God.
For His gifts to ev’ry nation,
Thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
Silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth’s safekeeping,
Thanks be to God.

2 In the just reward of labor,
God’s will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor,
God’s will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing,
God’s will is done.

3 For the harvests of the Spirit,
Thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
Thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us,
For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us,
Thanks be to God.

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Postlude "Piano and Organ Reprise of "For the Fruits of His Creation"



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND THANKS

Violinist: Ellie Sievers

Vocalists / Pianists: Joy Schubert and Katie Meek

Lector: Rev. George Mrochen

Altar Care: Cathy Kumke

Thanksgiving Altar Decorations: Terry Hornburg

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