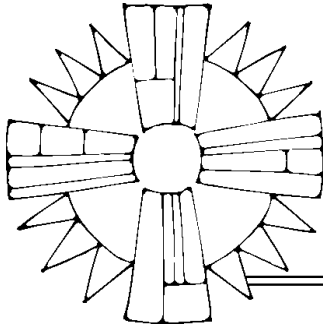




I will give
thanks
to the Lord
with my
whole heart.

P S A L M 133 · 1

Thanksgiving



THANKSGIVING DAY

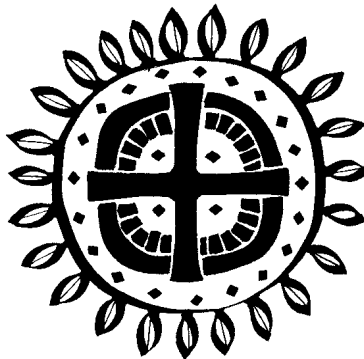
Pastor Jon Bergemann
November 25 and 26, 2020

Today's focus: *Give thanks to the Lord!* Happy Thanksgiving! This morning we pause to give praise and thanks to our gracious God. In our readings and meditations, Moses will encourage us to remember God's blessings in the past, Paul will share with us the secret to living a content life, and Jesus will prove that he can provide for our every earthly and eternal need. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his love endures forever!

Pre-service music: Variations of "For the Fruit of His Creation" and "Now Thank We All Our God"
(Both arranged by Kristin Campbell)

Flute: Erin Arndt

Piano: Jan Henriksen



Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church
525 63rd Street, Downers Grove
630-852-1519
www.gsdg.org

It is the mission of



Good Shepherd

to

Seek the Lost
Feed the Flock and
Serve our Savior



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is part of a group of nearly 1,300 churches called the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or WELS. The WELS is a worldwide church with congregations serving in all fifty of the United States, as well as in Mexico and Canada. The WELS also serves over 26 foreign countries through world mission work. We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the WELS as well as the members of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference, consisting of 21 confessional Lutheran church bodies throughout the world.

We Come into the Presence of God

Musical Introduction *(This is an opportunity to quiet your mind and heart and prepare for the joy of worshipping your God.)*

Responsive Litany

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

M: Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name.

C: Make known among the nations what He has done.

M: Sing to Him, sing praise to Him;

C: Tell of all His wonderful acts.

M: Let us enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise.

C: Give thanks to Him and praise His name.

M: O heavenly Father, how good You are to us! Day after day You pour out blessings upon us, showering us with gifts of food and drink, clothing and shoes, money and goods, family and friends. We are unworthy of all the kindnesses which You've shown to us. Forgive us, Lord!

C: Forgive us, Lord, for shallow thankfulness. Rather than giving thanks for Your gifts, we selfishly complain, and foolishly worry. Forgive us for doubting Your care, for focusing too much on this life, and too little on eternal life. Have mercy on us, O God!

M: Take heart, children of God, for God has given You the greatest gift of all—the gift of His Son. Jesus lived, died, and rose—all for you. Because of Jesus, your sins are forgiven and washed away, they are removed from you as far as the east is from the west.

C: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!

M: The Lord is the great God, the great King above all “gods.”

C: In His hands are the deep places of the earth.

M: The sea is His for He made it!

C: His hands formed the dry lands.

M: O come! Let us worship and bow down!

C: Let us kneel before the Lord our maker,

M: for He is our God.

C: We are the people of His pasture, the sheep under His care.

Prayer of the Day

M: Almighty God our Father, Your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of Your Spirit lead us to acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Opening Hymn: #609, verses 1-2 "We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer"



1 We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor!
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fath - ers; we bless you.



In grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring;
Through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been;



We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;
When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,



We bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
And with your help, O Lord, our bat - tles we win.

Text: Julia B. Cory, 1882–1963, alt.

Tune: KREMSER (12 11 12 11) *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, Haarlem, 1626.

We Listen

First Meditation: Deuteronomy 8:10-18

¹⁰When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land he has given you. ¹¹Be careful that you do not forget the Lord your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. ¹²Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, ¹³and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, ¹⁴then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. ¹⁵He led you through the vast and dreadful wilderness, that thirsty and waterless land, with its venomous snakes and scorpions. He brought you water out of hard rock. ¹⁶He gave you manna to eat in the wilderness, something your ancestors had never known, to humble and test you so that in the end it might go well with you. ¹⁷You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." ¹⁸But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

The First Article of the Apostles' Creed with Luther's Explanation

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

What does this mean?

I believe that God created me and all that exists, and that he gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my mind and all my abilities.

And I believe that God still preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, property and home, spouse and children, land, cattle, and all I own, and all I need to keep my body and life. God also preserves me by defending me against all danger, guarding and protecting me from all evil. All this God does only because he is my good and merciful Father in heaven, and not because I have earned or deserved it. For all this I ought to thank and praise, to serve and obey him.

This is most certainly true.

Second Meditation: Philippians 4:10-20

¹⁰I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. ¹¹I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹²I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

¹⁴Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. ¹⁵Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; ¹⁶for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. ¹⁷Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. ¹⁸I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. ¹⁹And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

²⁰To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn: #611, verses 1-2 “For the Fruit of His Creation”

1 For the fruit of his cre - a - tion, Thanks be to
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be
God. For his gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks
done. In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's
be to God. For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing,
will be done. In our world - wide task of car - ing
Si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing, Fu - ture
For the hun - gry and de - spair - ing, In the
needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, Thanks be to God.
har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will be done.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000, alt. © 1970 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

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Tune: AR HYD Y NOS (84 84 888 4) Welsh melody, 18th century.

Third Meditation: Luke 17:11-19

¹¹Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance ¹³and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!”

¹⁴When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed.

¹⁵One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. ¹⁶He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.

¹⁷Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? ¹⁸Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.”

We Respond

Thanksgiving Prayer of the Church

M: Lord of heaven and earth, you made all things beautiful. You have provided green forests and refreshing streams. You have arranged the orderly procession of day and night for our work and rest.

C: Thank you for the mountains and the prairies, the roaring sea, and the gentle breeze.

M: Thank you for roofs that shelter us, for clothing that protects us, and for food and drink. Thank you for our work, for projects that are done well, and for the approval of supervisors and teachers. Thank you for all who serve at night to make our days more pleasant.

C: Thank you for associates at work, for their encouragement and praise, and for the joys of human friendships.

M: Thank you for our cities and our countrysides, for farms and factories, for streets and highways, and for all of life that flows so swiftly before us.

C: Thank you for children at play, their boundless energy, and their shouts of joy and laughter.

M: Thank you for the morning greetings we receive, and for all the smiles that come from faces loved by you.

C: Thank you for Christian parents, for their affection and their care.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we give thanks for personal blessings.

Silent prayer

M: Thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, for his coming to us in Word and sacraments, for his giving and forgiving, and for listening to our prayers. Receive our gifts and offerings as our sacrifice of praise.

C: **Lead us in thankful living today and always. Amen.**

Offering *(In an effort to maintain a safe social distance, please place your offerings in the provided plates when exiting the sanctuary.)*

If you are a guest in our church, please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering. We do not want you to think that God or our congregation is soliciting funds from you. You enrich us simply by being here.)

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

C: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: #610, verses 1,3 “Now Thank We All Our God”



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and
3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther



hands and voic - es, Who won - drous things has done,
now be giv - en, The Son, and him who reigns



In whom his world re - joic - es, Who from our
With them in high - est heav - en, The one e -



moth - er's arms Has blessed us on our way With
ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore! For



count - less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.
thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

Text: Martin Rinkart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT (67 67 66 66) Johann Crüger, 1598–1662.

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