



**GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN**

November 22, 2018

THANKSGIVING

WELCOME

Thank you for joining us at God's house today. Please fill out the friendship folder located at one of the ends of your pew.

Restrooms are located in the fellowship hall which is located in the lower level of the building. Follow the signs or an usher can direct you.

Parent's Rooms are located off the gathering area right before you enter the sanctuary and also on the lower level of the building where there is a television broadcasting the service.

Children's Activity Bags intended for children ages 3-6 can be found in the Parent's Room hanging under the window.

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Thanksgiving

Never could there be a king like Christ, our king. Beyond all comparison is the rule he exercises in time and in eternity. Incomparably great therefore is also our joy in worshiping him even now as we await his triumphant return to transform our worship in faith and under the cross to worship in sight and in glory.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Rev. Jason C. Hacker
Presiding Minister

Mrs. Valerie Floeter
Organ

Mrs. Kathy Smith
Jubilate Bells -- Conductor
Grace Choir -- Director

Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Bartos
Cantors

Mr. Alan Floeter
Grace Brass and Winds -- Conductor

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Readings -- The Holy Bible: The Evangelical Heritage Version

The readings are from a newly published translation of the Bible, called the Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV). For more information on the EHV, please visit www.wartburgproject.org.

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HYMN -- #724 Voices Raised to You We Offer



1 Voic - es raised to you we of - fer;
2 All cre - a - tion joins to praise you;
3 Christ, the song of love in - car - nate,
4 Spir - it, flam - ing through cre - a - tion,
5 How can an - y praise we of - fer



Tune them, God, for songs of praise.
Earth and sky your works dis - play.
Touch - ing earth with heav - en's grace.
Kin - dle faith with - in each heart.
Mea - sure all the thanks we owe!



Hearts and hands we bring in trib - ute
Art and mu - sic, gifts you lend us,
For your liv - ing, suf - f'ring, dy - ing,
Lift our voic - es high in chor - us;
Take our hearts and hands and voic - es—



For your gifts through all our days.
We re - turn to you to - day,
For your ris - ing, hear our praise!
Through our hands your love im - part.
Gifts of love we can be - stow.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Tri - une God, to you we sing!
God, Cre - a - tor, source of life!
Christ, Re - deem - er, Lord of life!
Spir - it, Help - er, breath of life!
Tri - une God, to you we sing!

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19

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

Congregation: **Amen.**

VERSES

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving.
Make music to our God on the harp.

He covers the sky with clouds;
He supplies the earth with rain.

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time.
You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
His love endures forever.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

1 John 1:8-9, John 20:19-23

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,
 I am sinful by nature
 and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
 I have not loved you with my whole heart;
 I have not loved others as I should.
 I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
 with his holy life and innocent death.
Trusting in him, I pray:
 God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

God, our gracious Father, has forgiven all your sins. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for your guilt by his death on the cross and freed you from death by his resurrection from the grave. You are at peace with God. Live in the comfort and joy of his forgiveness.

Amen.

VERSES

Praise the Lord, O my soul;
All my inmost being, praise his holy name.

He does not treat us as our sins deserve.
Or repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
So great is his love for those who fear him;

As far as the east is from the west,
So far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
His love endures forever.

HYMN -- #260 Let All Things Now Living

Congregation sings

1 Let all things now living
A song of thanksgiving
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us,
Protected and stayed us,
Who still guides us on to the end our days.
God's banners are o'er us;
His light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished
And darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.

2 His law he enforces;
The stars in their courses
And sun in its orbit obediently shine.
The hills and the mountains,
The rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine.
We, too, should be voicing
Our love and rejoicing.
With glad adoration a song let us raise.
Till all things now living
Unite in thanksgiving;
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

THE WORD

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Amen.

Be seated

ANTHEM -- Lord of the Harvest

Music by Larry Shackley

Words by Pamela Steward

Lorenz Publishing Company, 2013

*Lord of the harvest, Lord of the grain, maker of sunlight; maker of rain;
Giver of growth and bountiful yield. Lord of the tree, the vine, and the field.*

*Lord of the harvest, Lord of the land, maker of all we hold in our hands;
Giver of ways to serve and to bless, Lord of our labor, and Lord of our rest.*

We lift a song of harvest, we lift a song of praise to You, O Lord our maker and giver of each day.

We thank you for your blessing, for each gift from above;

To you, Lord of the harvest, we lift our hearts in love.

*Lord of the harvest, Lord of new birth, maker of heaven, maker of earth;
Giver of springtime, giver of fall, Lord of creation, Lord over all.*

We thank you for your blessing, for each gift from above;

To you, Lord of the harvest, we lift our hearts in love.

FIRST READING -- Deuteronomy 26:1-11

When you have entered the land the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it,² take some of the firstfruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land the LORD your God is giving you and put them in a basket. Then go to the place the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name³ and say to the priest in office at the time, "I declare today to the LORD

your God that I have come to the land the LORD swore to our forefathers to give us." ⁴ The priest shall take the basket from your hands and set it down in front of the altar of the LORD your God. ⁵ Then you shall declare before the LORD your God: "My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous. ⁶ But the Egyptians mistreated us and made us suffer, putting us to hard labor. ⁷ Then we cried out to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our misery, toil and oppression. ⁸ So the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with miraculous signs and wonders. ⁹ He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey; ¹⁰ and now I bring the firstfruits of the soil that you, O LORD, have given me." Place the basket before the LORD your God and bow down before him. ¹¹ And you and the Levites and the aliens among you shall rejoice in all the good things the LORD your God has given to you and your household.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM -- Thou Visitest the Earth

Psalm 65:9-11

Maurice Green (1695-1755)

Arr. by Paul Thomas

Concordia Publishing House, 1957

Thou visitest the earth and blesses it, and crownest the year with thy goodness.

SECOND READING -- 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

This is what I mean: The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly. The one who sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.

⁸ God is able to make all grace overflow to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will overflow in every good work. ⁹ As it is written:

He scattered; he gave to the poor.

His righteousness remains forever.

¹⁰ And he who provides seed to the sower and bread for food will provide and multiply your seed for sowing, and will increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be made rich in every way so that you may be generous in every way, which produces thanksgiving to God through us. ¹² To be

sure, the administration of this service is not only making up for what is lacking among the saints, but it is also overflowing in many prayers of thanksgiving to God. ¹³ By proving yourselves in this service, many people are glorifying God, as they see the obedience shown in your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity shown in your sharing with them and all people. ¹⁴ At the same time as they pray for you, they also express their longing for you, because of the extraordinary measure of God's grace given to you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God!

Stand

VERSE — Psalm 136:1

Alleluia! Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
For his steadfast love endures forever. Alleluia!

GOSPEL -- Luke 12:13-21

The Gospel of St. Luke, chapter 12.

Glory be to you, O Lord.

Someone from the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." ¹⁴ But Jesus said to him, "Man, who appointed me to be a judge or an arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵ Then he said to them, "Watch out and be on guard against all greed, because a man's life is not measured by how many possessions he has."

¹⁶ He told them a parable: "The land of a certain rich man produced very well. ¹⁷ He was thinking to himself, 'What will I do, because I do not have anywhere to store my crops?' ¹⁸ He said, 'This is what I will do. I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and goods. ¹⁹ And I will tell my soul, "Soul, you have many goods stored up for many years. Take it easy. Eat, drink, and be merry."'"

²⁰ "But God said to him, 'You fool, this night your soul will be demanded from you. Now who will get what you have prepared?'"

²¹ "That is how it will be for anyone who stores up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ.

HYMN -- #609 We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer Creator

SERMON — Psalm 103

*Bless the LORD, O my soul.
All that is within me, bless his holy name.
2 Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—
3 who pardons all your guilt,
who heals all your diseases,
4 who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with mercy and compassion,
5 who satisfies your life with goodness,
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle.
6 The LORD performs righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.
7 He made known his ways to Moses,
his deeds to the people of Israel.
8 The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
9 He will not always accuse.
He will not keep his anger forever.
10 He does not treat us as our sins deserve.
He does not repay us according to our guilty deeds.
11 Yes, as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so powerful is his mercy toward those who fear him.
12 As distant as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our rebellious acts from us.
13 As a father has compassion on his children,
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him.
14 For he knows how we were formed.
He remembers that we are dust.
15 As for man, his days are like grass.
Like a wildflower he blossoms.
16 Then the wind blows over it, and it is gone,
and its place recognizes it no more.
17 But the LORD's mercy is from eternity to eternity
over those who fear him,
and his righteousness is with their children's children,
18 with those who keep his covenant,
with those who remember his precepts in order to obey them.
19 The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,
and his royal power rules over all.
20 Bless the LORD, you his angels,
you strong warriors who obey his word
by listening to what he says.
21 Bless the LORD, all his armies,
you who minister to him,
you who do whatever pleases him.
22 Bless the LORD, everything he has made
in all places where he rules.
Bless the LORD, O my soul.*

CONFESSION OF FAITH

First Article of the Apostles' Creed from the Small Catechism

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 still 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.

Be seated

OFFERING

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. This evening, worshipers will bring their offering forward to the chancel.

HANDBELLS -- Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Stand

THE LITANY

Give thanks to the Lord who is good.

God's love is everlasting.

Come, let us praise God joyfully.

Let us come to God with thanksgiving.

For the good world; for things great and small, beautiful and awesome; for seen and unseen splendors:

We thank you, O God.

For human life; for talking and moving and thinking together; for common hopes and hardships shared from birth until our dying:

We thank you, O God.

For work to do and strength to work; for the comradeship of labor; for exchanges of good humor and encouragement:

We thank you, O God.

For marriage; for the mystery and joy of flesh made one; for mutual forgiveness and burdens shared; for secrets kept in love:

We thank you, O God.

For family; for living together and eating together; for family amusements and family pleasures:

We thank you, O God.

For children; for their energy and curiosity; for their brave play and startling frankness; for their sudden sympathies:

We thank you, O God.

For the young; for their high hopes; for their candid criticism; for their search for freedom:

We thank you, O God.

For growing up and growing old; for wisdom deepened by experience; for rest in leisure; for time made precious by its passing:

We thank you, O God.

For your help in times of doubt and sorrow; for healing our diseases; for preserving us in temptation and danger:

We thank you, O God.

For the Church into which we have been called; for the good news we receive by Word and sacrament; for our life together in the Lord:

We praise you, O God.

For your Holy Spirit, who guides our steps and brings us gifts of faith and love, who prays in us and prompts our grateful worship:

We praise you, O God.

Above all, O God, for your Son, Jesus Christ, who lived and died and lives again for our salvation; for our hope in him; and for the joy of serving him:

We thank and praise you, eternal God, for all your goodness to us.

Give thanks to the Lord, who is good.

God's love is everlasting.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thank be to God.

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son (+), and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Be seated

HYMN -- #610 Now Thank We All Our God