

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Missouri Synod**  
**420 North Washington Street**  
**Papillion, Nebraska 68046**  
**402-339-3668**



**November 25, 2020**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Mission statement:** Sharing and living a changeless Gospel with a changing world.  
*(John 8:58, Hebrews 13:8)*

*“Lord, what would You do through me to accomplish Your will here at First Lutheran Church?”*

**Senior Pastor Karl P. Ziegler**  
**Associate Pastor Joshua D. Mork**  
**Director of Christian Education Mr. Brady Laib**  
**Director of Music Mr. David Ricke**  
**Preschool Director Mrs. Mindy Irvine**

# THANKSGIVING EVE

*Thanksgiving -- NOT*

*November 25, 2020*



## As We Gather

A Day of National Thanksgiving is an honored tradition in this nation. But thankfulness to God is something that transcends national borders and the boundaries of time. God's people are always thankful people, for they know what great things He has done and continues to do for them. In Martin Luther's explanation of the First Article of the Creed, he states that in response to God's great gifts, it is the Christian's "duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him." Our worship is one way through which we carry out that joyful duty.



## + PREPARATION +

### Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

### Opening Sentences

*Psalm 95:1-2; 100:4-5; 147:1, 7*

P Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!  
C **Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!**

P Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.  
C **Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre!**

P Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him; bless His name!  
C **For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.**

### LSB 788 "Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness"



1 For - give us, Lord, for shal - low thank - ful - ness,  
2 Teach us to thank You, Lord, for love and grace,  
3 For - give us, Lord, for self - ish thanks and praise,  
4 Teach us, O Lord, true thank - ful - ness di - vine,



For dull con - tent with warmth and shel - tered care,  
For life and vi - sion, for a pur - pose clear,  
For words that speak at var - i - ance with deeds;  
That gives as Christ gave, nev - er count - ing cost,

For songs of praise for food and har - vest press,  
 For Christ Your Son, and for each hu - man face  
 For - give our thanks for walk - ing pleas - ant ways  
 That knows no bar - ri - er of "yours" and "mine,"

While of Your rich - er gifts we're un - a - ware:  
 That shows Your mes - sage ev - er new and near.  
 Un - mind - ful of a bro - ken broth - er's needs:  
 As - sured that on - ly what's with - held is lost.

5 Forgive us, Lord, for feast that knows not fast,  
 For joy in things that meanwhile starve the soul,  
 For walls and wars that hide Your mercies vast  
 And blur our vision of the Kingdom goal:

6 Open our eyes to see Your love's intent,  
 To know with minds and hearts its depth and height;  
 May thankfulness be days in service spent,  
 Reflection of Christ's life and love and light.

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## Confession and Absolution

P I will go to the altar of God,  
 C **to God my exceeding joy.**

P If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.  
 C **Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God, our gracious Father.  
 C **Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Creator of all things, we confess that we are indeed sinful. We have broken our fellowship with You and have turned away from one another in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We have not lived lives that are continuing expressions of gratitude. We do repent and are truly sorry for all of our sins. Have mercy on us because of Jesus, our Lord and the source of our salvation. Grant that, by the working of the Holy Spirit, we live faithfully and with full thankfulness until that time when we rejoice together in Your eternal presence.**

P God has promised forgiveness to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him for grace. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. The Lord keep you steadfast in the Holy Spirit, lead you to greater faith and obedience, grant you a spirit of ongoing thankfulness, and finally bring you to live with Him forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
 C **Amen.**

## LSB 893 "Sing to the Lord of Harvest"

1 Sing to the Lord of harvest,  
 Sing songs of love and praise;  
 With joyful hearts and voices  
 Your alleluias raise.

By Him the rolling seasons  
 In fruitful order move;  
 Sing to the Lord of harvest  
 A joyous song of love.

2 God makes the clouds rain goodness,  
 The deserts bloom and spring,  
 The hills leap up in gladness,  
 The valleys laugh and sing.  
 God fills them with His fullness,  
 All things with large increase;  
 He crowns the year with blessing,  
 With plenty and with peace.

3 Bring to this sacred altar  
 The gifts His goodness gave,  
 The golden sheaves of harvest,  
 The souls Christ died to save.  
 Your hearts lay down before Him  
 When at His feet you fall,  
 And with your lives adore Him  
 Who gave His life for all.

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## Prayer

P Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, we adore You as the God and Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and with the whole Church on earth and all the hosts of heaven we ascribe to You honor and blessing, thanksgiving and praise. Grant that we with thankful hearts receive Your great mercies and express our gratitude, not only with our lips but also in our lives as we give ourselves to Your service and walk before You in holiness and righteousness all our days. Give us faith that works in love, hope that never disappoints, kindness that never fails, confidence in You that never wavers, patience that does not grow weary, and courage always ready to confess Christ, that we live in Your mercy and die in Your peace; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

## Catechism

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.**

## LSB 894 “For the Fruits of His Creation”

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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## Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

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.**



+ **WORD** +

## Old Testament Reading

*Deuteronomy 8:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>“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. <sup>2</sup>And 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. <sup>3</sup>And 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. <sup>4</sup>Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. <sup>5</sup>Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. <sup>6</sup>So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. <sup>7</sup>For 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, <sup>8</sup>a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, <sup>9</sup>a 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. <sup>10</sup>And 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.**

## Epistle

*Philippians 4:6–20*

<sup>6</sup>Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>Finally, 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. <sup>9</sup>What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

<sup>10</sup>I 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. <sup>11</sup>Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. <sup>12</sup>I 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. <sup>13</sup>I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

<sup>14</sup>Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. <sup>15</sup>And 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.

<sup>16</sup>Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. <sup>17</sup>Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. <sup>18</sup>I 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. <sup>19</sup>And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. <sup>20</sup>To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### Gradual and Verse

*Psalm 145:15–16; 118:1*

P Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever.

C **Alleluia. Alleluia.**

P The eyes of all look to You, O Lord, and You give them their food in due season.

C **You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.**

P Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever.

C **Alleluia. Alleluia.**

### Holy Gospel

*Luke 17:11–19*

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

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

### LSB 785 “We Praise You, O God”

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!

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### Sermon

*Thanksgiving -- NOT*

Pastor Mork

### Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord, on this day we thank You for Your bountiful gifts to all of us. We remember Your many acts of kindness to Your people through all ages. We bless You for the orderly progression of the seasons and thank You for the bountiful harvest of the fruits of the earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C **hear our prayer.**
- P We thank You for the Church, asking that the message of salvation joyfully be proclaimed throughout all the world. Bless the work of missionaries, teachers, health workers, and all others who share their faith in countless ways. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C **hear our prayer.**
- P We thank You for the world in which we live and pray for the community of nations. Continue to give us all things needful, and grant that we be good stewards of the earth. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C **hear our prayer.**
- P We thank You for the gift of our families and everyone in them. Help us be truly thankful not only for the material blessings in our lives but for the people who share our lives with us. Grant that our homes be places of love and care and our neighborhoods be welcoming sanctuaries for all. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C **hear our prayer.**
- P We thank You for the faithful labor of people living out their vocations for our welfare. Today we ask a special blessing on the military forces of our nation, those stationed both at home and abroad, whose efforts serve to defend our nation in challenging times and who guarantee our safety in times of peace. And we remember those whose labor brings food to our tables in this and in every season. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C **hear our prayer.**
- P We thank You that Your care embraces all people as we remember those with special concerns and needs including the ill, hospitalized, and those shut-in, [*including . . .*], those who sorrow, the unemployed, and underemployed. Help us to find purpose and blessing in assisting those who need the care and compassion that we can offer them. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C **hear our prayer.**
- P Merciful God, in our thankful remembrance we recall those no longer among us on earth, who now rejoice in the glorious light of Your heavenly kingdom. Grant that we be inspired by their faithful witness as we look forward to that time when we rejoice together at Your heavenly throne, giving You eternal thanks and praise. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C **hear our prayer. Amen.**

### 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.**

### Prayer

- P Let us pray:  
Almighty God, You crown the fields with Your blessing and permit us to gather in the fruits of the earth. As stewards of Your creation, move us to receive Your gifts in humble thankfulness and share Your bounty with

those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

### **Benediction**

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.**

### *LSB 895 “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.

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

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

^ 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.

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### ***Go and Tell!***



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### **Those serving the Lord and us tonight:**

**Preacher:** Reverend Joshua D. Mork

**Liturgist:** Reverend Karl P. Ziegler

**Organist:** Mr. Dave Ricke

**Elder:** Mr. Kyle Baardson

**Acolytes:** Grant Gilbreath and Landon McConnell

**Deuteronomy 8:3b** – “. . . that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that come from the mouth of the LORD.” The flip side to this statement is what Jesus told us about worrying in Matthew 6: seek first the Kingdom of God, and all these things will be added unto you. When we put things in the right order – God, His Kingdom,

and His Word – everything else falls into place.