

**St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church—Muskego, WI**  
**THANKSGIVING WORSHIP**

**Counting Our Blessings**

November 23 and 24, 2022

*Living with a fallen nature in a world that is ravaged by sin, it is easy to get pulled into negative thinking. "The world is self-destructing." "My life is falling apart." "There is no hope or promise for the future." Satan loves this kind of thinking because of its ability to stunt and squash our faith. Living with a heart of gratitude, counting our blessings, recognizing God as source of everything good in our lives—these are hope-filled thoughts that change our outlook, lift our hearts, engender peace, joy, and contentment, and lead us to a joy-filled life of generosity.*

**PRE-SERVICE SPECIAL MUSIC**

**Come, Let Us Make a Joyful Noise**

*G. F. Handel*

*Robyn Bennett and Danielle Gedemer (Wednesday)*

*Lydia Eiche Ross and Danielle Gedemer (Thursday)*

**BELLS AND WELCOME**

**OPENING HYMN 614**

**Sing to the Lord of Harvest**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

**M In the name of the Father;**

**C Who richly and daily supplies us with all we need for this body and life;**

**M In the name of his Son, Jesus Christ;**

**C Who purchased and won us, not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood, and his innocent suffering and death;**

**M In the name of the Holy Spirit;**

**C Who calls me by the gospel, sanctifies and keeps me in the one true faith, just as he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth. Amen.**

M Heavenly Father, we have been so richly blessed by you.

C **Yet we confess, Father, that we easily get caught up in focusing on what we perceive as negative in our lives. In the process, we lose sight of all the good things you are showering on us every day in the midst of our struggles and challenges. Forgive us, Father, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ.**

M Dear Jesus, thank you for coming into the world to be our Savior.

C **Yet, dear Savior, so often the agony you suffered on our behalf and your willingness to take the punishment of our sins upon yourself become an afterthought, rather than the driving force for all that we do and say. Forgive us, Lord Jesus.**

M Holy Spirit, you have called us to faith in Jesus Christ, and have continued to work in our hearts and lives to mold us into the people you have called us to be.

C **We must confess, however, that we often forget our calling as your holy people. We live as if your call to a new and holier life does not matter. Forgive us, Holy Spirit. Continue your sanctifying work within our hearts and lives.**

M Although we so easily forget the true Source of every good gift in our lives, God does not forget. He remembers his love, mercy, and compassion. He remembers his covenant of forgiveness in Christ, in which he promises, "I will forgive their wickedness, and remember their sins no more" (Jeremiah 31:34). God's mercies are new every morning. Therefore, as a called servant of the Word, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

M Thank you, Lord, for remembering your great love for us.

#### HYMN OF PRAISE 610, vv. 1, 3

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 mother's arms Has blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love And still is ours today.

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.

#### Now Thank We All Our God

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Let us pray.

Almighty God, your mercies are new every morning and your goodness, though undeserved, continually and abundantly provides for all our needs of body and soul. Give to us, we humbly pray, a rich measure of your Holy Spirit that we may daily and sincerely acknowledge your merciful goodness toward us, give thanks for all your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT

**Deuteronomy 8:1-10**, Bible page 184

*Israel is commanded to remember God's goodness to them when they enter the Promised Land.*

## PSALM OF THE DAY

**Psalm 103**, Hymnal page 105

*This Lord is good and his love endures forever.*

## EPISTLE

**1 Thessalonians 5:12-28**, Bible page 1188

*Paul encourages us to give thanks in all circumstances.*

## ANTHEM

**How Great Thou Art**

*Stuart K Hine, Words and Music*

*Lloyd Larsen, Arrangement*

*Robyn Bennett and Danielle Gedemer (Wednesday)*

*Lydia Eiche Ross and Danielle Gedemer (Thursday)*

## GOSPEL

**Luke 17:11-19**, Bible page 1050

*Jesus heals the ten lepers; one remembers to return and give him thanks.*

**CONFESSION OF FAITH**

**The First Article with Martin Luther's Explanation**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

*What does this mean?*

**I believe that God made me and every creature 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, house and home, wife and children, land, cattle and all I own, and all that I need to keep my body and life, and by defending me against all danger and 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.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY 460, vv. 1, 3, 5**

**How Can I Thank You, Lord**

**How can I thank you, Lord, For all your loving-kindness,  
That you have patiently Borne with me in my blindness!  
When dead in many sins And trespasses I lay,  
I kindled, holy God, Your anger ev'ry day.**

**Lord, you have raised me up To joy and exultation  
And clearly shown the way That leads me to salvation.  
My sins are washed away; For this I thank you, Lord.  
Now with my heart and soul All evil I abhor.**

**O Father, God of love, Now hear my supplication;  
O Savior, Son of God, Accept my adoration;  
O Holy Spirit, be My ever-faithful guide  
That I may serve you here And there with you abide.**

**SERMON**

**Philippians 4:4-9, Bible page 1181**

*Pastor Nate Strobel*

**RESPONSE HYMN 615, v. 2**

**We Thank You for Your Blessings**

**This day of great thanksgiving We count them one by one:  
Our free and fruitful country, The great things you have done,  
Our family, our loved ones, The guardian angels' care,  
Our very self and heartbeat -- Lord, hear our thankful prayer!**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M Almighty God, you show your love to us each day. You provide the necessities of life for the evil as well as the good; you send the rain on the just and the unjust.

C **Thank you, Lord, for your kindness and goodness to us.**

M We give you thanks, Lord, for giving us the greatest blessing that we need—faith in your Son, Jesus Christ, and what he has given to us in his cross and resurrection.

C **Thank you, Lord, for your kindness and goodness to us.**

M We give you thanks for the many gifts with which you have blessed us in this congregation. Help us to use them in service to you.

C **Thank you, Lord, for your kindness and goodness to us.**

M For all the blessings you give us each day—food to eat, a place to sleep, clothes to wear, and all we need for this body and life—we give you our thanks and praise.

C **Thank you, Lord, for your kindness and goodness to us.**

M Lord Jesus, your forgiveness is so free to us. Freely have we received it; may we freely give it to those who have sinned against us. If there is someone on our heart right now with whom we are having difficulties, give us grace to deal with them even as you would.

C **Thank you, Lord, for your kindness and goodness to us.**

M Heavenly Father, you remember your mercies to us each and every day. We especially ask this day that you would help the following people. . . . Meet these needs as only you can.

C **Thank you, Lord, for your kindness and goodness to us.**

M Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN 334

## Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Father, to us you've given all  
Your blessings now despite our fall;  
For all our needs you thus provide,  
And through our lives you safely guide.

O Lord, we thank you for your cross,  
On which you suffered for our loss;  
Triumphant over death and grave  
You rose for life, our souls to save.

## CLOSING PRAYER

**M** On this great day of thanksgiving, Lord, we offer you our thanks and praise for all that you have done and continue to do for us. We especially give thanks for the gift of your only-begotten Son, and that through faith in him, we have life in his name. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that he might continually strengthen us, producing in us a faith that gives thanks to you at all times and in all situations. We pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## BLESSING

**M** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God!

**M** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift his countenance upon you and (†) give you peace.



**C:** A - men. A - men. A - men.

## ST. PAUL'S CONNECTION

## POSTLUDE SPECIAL MUSIC

## Come and Give Thanks

*Larry Shackley*

*Brass Ensemble*