

**Welcome to Mount Vernon
First Christian Reformed Church!
November 27, 2024 – Thanksgiving Eve Service
Pastor John Knoester**

*** Please stand in body or in spirit**

We Gather Together

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

*** Call to Worship (Psalm 100)**

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness,
come before him with joyful songs.
Know that the Lord is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
Give thanks to him and praise his name.
For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

*** Opening Hymn of Thanksgiving: LUYH #5 v. 1-2**

“Let All Things Now Living”

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 guides us and leads to the end of our days.
His 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!

Words: Katherine K. Davis, 1939, P.D.; Music: (Ash Grove) Welch; desc. Katherine K. Davis © 1939, 1966 E.C. Schirmer Music Co. CCLI #678905

* Litany of Thanksgiving:

Leader: We give you thanks, generous God,
for the treasures of your good creation.
For the beauty of the earth,
for the wonder of each hour -

**People: For the joy of human love, and for Yourself,
best gift divine—we thank you with joy
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

* Hymn of Thanksgiving: LUYH #19 v. 1-5

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

1. For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,

Refrain

*Christ, our Lord, to you we raise
this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

2. For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light,

Refrain

3. For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind’s delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight:

Refrain

4. For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild,

Refrain

*Christ, our Lord, to you we raise
this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

5. For yourself, best gift divine,
to the world so freely given,
agent of God's grand design:
peace on earth and joy in heaven,

Refrain

Words: Folliott S. Pierpont, 1864, alt., P.D.; Music: Conrad Kocher, 1838; adapt. William H. Monk, 1861, P.D.; CCLI #678905

* God's Greeting

* We Greet Each Other

*(During the mutual greeting both the litany readers
and choir members are invited forward)*

We Give Thanks for God's Goodness and Love

Litany of Thanksgiving:

Reader 1: As we gather together this Thanksgiving Eve,
we count our blessings, one by one,
and realize that we don't often show enough
appreciation for the bounty that is ours.

Reader 2: For redwoods, white plains,
and the wild blue yonder,

Reader 1: for Yellowstone and brownstones,

Reader 2: for evergreen trees and orange groves,

Reader 1: for little pink houses and purple mountains'
majesty,

Reader 2: for every divinely painted acre of this vast land
of ours,

All: **we give you praise, O God.**

Reader 1: For Idaho potatoes and Texas toast,

Reader 2: for Washington apples and Hawaiian pineapples,

Reader 1: for Illinois corn and Maryland crab cakes,
Reader 2: for Ohio cherries and Florida strawberries,
Reader 1: for Philly cheese steaks and Chicago
deep dish pizza,
Reader 2: for Maine lobster and Mississippi mud pie,
Reader 1: for every home-cooked meal
and home-grown harvest,
All: **we give you praise.**

Reader 2: O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
Reader 1: we thank you this day for
Reader 2: police and firefighters,
Reader 1: for the MDs and the EMTs,
Reader 2: for Army rangers and Navy Seals,
Reader 1: for Air Force cadets and Marine Corps reserves,
Reader 2: for all who serve,
All: **we thank them and we thank you,
O God, our creator and redeemer.**

Reader 1: For Psalm 23 and Ecclesiastes 3,
Reader 2: for “How Great Thou Art” and
“Morning Has Broken,”
Reader 1: for “Amazing Grace” and “Jesus Loves Me,”
All: **we give you praise.**

Reader 2: For uncommon valor that never sleeps;
Reader 1: for steady hands, sturdy legs, broad shoulders,
and level heads;
Reader 2: for blood, sweat, and tears;
for conquering our fears;
All: **we give you praise.**

Reader 1: Father, we join with heart and voice
all those you call your own to honor
and thank you.
Reader 2: We ask you, Lord, as our forefathers
and mothers did, to secure for all peoples
of the world the greatest blessings of freedom
and peace.
All: **O God, hear our prayer. Amen.**

Ministry of Music: *"A Song of Thanksgiving"* by Sue Farrar - Choir

Offering: Designated (all undesignated offerings will go to Friendship House)

Offertory

We Give Thanks for God's Word

Scripture Reading: Psalm 91

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"Under the Shadow of His Wings"***

Prayer of Application

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #572 v. 1,3,4

"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

1. Sing praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation.
My soul with comfort rich he fills,
and every grief he gently stills:
to God all praise and glory!
3. The Lord is never far away,
but through all grief distressing,
an ever present help and stay,
our peace, and joy, and blessing;
as with a mother's tender hand,
God gently leads the chosen band:
to God all praise and glory!
4. We sought the Lord in our distress;
O God, in mercy hear us.
Our Savior saw our helplessness
and came with peace to cheer us.
For this we thank and praise the Lord,
who is by one and all adored:
to God all praise and glory!

Words: Johann J. Schütz, 1675; tr. Frances Cox, 1864, alt., P.D.; Music: Bohemian Brethren's Kirchengesänge, 1566 P.D.; CCLI #678905

(During the singing of the 3rd verse the elders are invited forward)

We Give Thanks for God's Grace

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

Declaration of God's Invitation and Promises (Based on Luke 13:29, 24:30-31)

Preparing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Invitation

Distribution

1. PP #181 *"Give Thanks" 2x*

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say,
"I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

Give thanks, give thanks.

"Give Thanks" Henry Smith, ©1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music, CCLI# 678905

2. LUYH #348 v. 1-3 *"Great is Thy Faithfulness"*

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Refrain

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow—
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;

all I have needed thy hand hath provided.

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23: Words: Thomas O Chisholm, 1923, © 1923, ren. 1951
Hope Publishing Company; Music: William M. Runyan, 1923, © 1923, ren. 1951
Hope Publishing Company, CCLI #678905

3. LUYH #17 v. 1-4 *“Beautiful Savior”*

1. Beautiful Savior! King of creation!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
2. Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,
robed in flowers of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer;
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
3. Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
than all the angels in the sky.

Acapella

4. Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine!

Words: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1873, P.D;
Music: Schleissche Volkslieder, 1842, P.D.; CCLI# 678905

Sharing of the Bread:

Take, eat, remember and believe that the body
of our Lord Jesus Christ was given for the complete forgiveness
of all our sins.

Take, drink, remember and believe the precious blood
of our Lord Jesus Christ was shed for the complete forgiveness
of all our sins.

Response of Praise and Prayer

We Go Forth in Gratitude and Thanksgiving

* God's Parting Blessing

* Closing Hymn of Thanksgiving: LUYH #543 v. 1-3

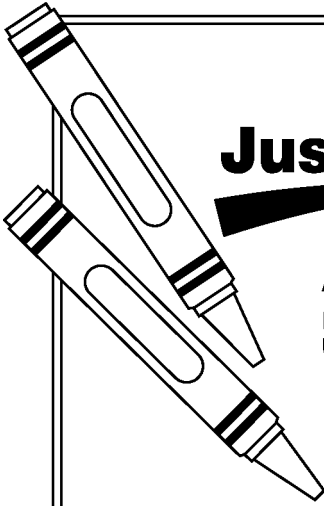
"Now Thank We All Our God"

1. Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.
2. O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
to 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 Spirit blest,
who reign in highest heaven—
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Words: Martin Rinkart, 1636; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt., P.D.; Johann Crüger, 1647, harm. based on Felix Mendelssohn's *Lobgesang*, Opus 52, 1840, Public Domain; CCLI #678905

Postlude

This evening, we will commemorate Jesus' death and resurrection as we celebrate the Lord's Supper. By faith, Jesus' death fully covers all our sin and by His resurrection power He gives us everlasting life. May Christ's Spirit strengthen us in faith, hope, and love as we draw near to Christ Jesus through His Spirit. *The Lord's Supper is a table of grace. All those who have received the grace of Christ and confess Him as Lord and Savior of their life are warmly invited to participate. Yet, know too that there is also 'grace' from this community of faith for those who do not yet confess Christ as Lord. And if that's the case then we encourage you not to partake until you have the genuine desire to receive God's grace and are ready to proclaim Christ as your Lord.*





Just for **KIDS**

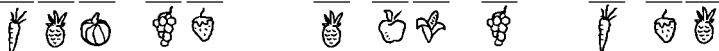
Acts 14:17b

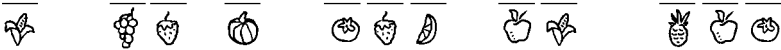
Fill in the blanks to find the words from the Scripture.
Use the special code.


THANK YOU, LORD



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"He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven
and crops in their seasons; He provides you with plenty of
food and fills your hearts with joy;"

