

Lord of Love Lutheran Church Thanksgiving Worship

November 23 & 24, 2022

HYMN (CW 610)

Now Thank We All Our God

On Wednesday evening this hymn will be sung by the quartet. Thanksgiving Day the congregation sings the hymn.



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

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. (spoken)

THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

selected verses from Psalm 65

M: Praise awaits you, O God, in Zion; to you our vows will be fulfilled.

C: O you who hear our prayer, to you all men will come.

(sung) 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. (CW 609:1)

M: Those living far away fear your wonders;

C: Where morning dawns and evening fades, you call forth songs of joy.

M: You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly.

C: The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, for so you have ordained it.

M: You drench its furrows and level its ridges; you soften it with showers and bless its crops.

C: You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance.

M: The grasslands of the desert overflow; the hills are clothed with gladness.

C: The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are mantled with grain; they shout for joy and sing.

(sung) We worship you, God of our fathers, we bless you.

Through life's storm and tempest our guide you have been;

When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,

And with your help, O Lord, our battles we win. (CW 609:2)

M: Because our God of grace uses his mighty power to rescue us, we humbly approach his throne, penitent for our sins and begging for his full and free forgiveness.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

(sung) Your love you have shown us, your only Son sending, Who came as a babe and whose bed was a stall.

His blest life he gave us and then he died to save us; We praise you, Lord our Savior, for your gift to all.

M: When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions.

C: Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts.

M: We are filled with the good things of your house.

C: We are filled with the blessings of your holy temple.

M: You answer us, God our Savior, and you save us with awesome deeds of righteousness.

C: You are the hope of all the ends of the earth.

M: You set the mountains in place by your strength, showing your mighty power.

C: You calm the roar of the sea; you calm the peoples' uproar.

(sung) With voices united our praises we offer;
To you, great Jehovah, glad anthems we raise.
Your strong arm will guide us; our God is beside us.
To you, our great Redeemer, fore'er be praise! (CW 609:3)

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. (spoken)

Be seated

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Genesis 8:18-22

¹⁸ Noah went out with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives along with him. ¹⁹ Every animal, every creeping thing, every bird, and whatever swarms on the earth went out of the ship, species by species.

²⁰ Noah built an altar to the LORD and took from every clean animal and every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar. ²¹ The LORD smelled the pleasant aroma. The LORD said in his heart, "I will never again curse the soil anymore because of man, for the thoughts he forms in his heart are evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike every living thing, as I have done. ²² While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."





Shout for joy to the LORD, <u>all</u> the earth.* Worship the LORD with <u>gladness</u>;

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.

Refrain

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his <u>courts</u> with praise;* give thanks to him and <u>praise</u> his name.

For the LORD is good and his love endures for<u>ever</u>;* his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the beg<u>in</u>ning,* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer. © 1993 Kermit G. Moldenhauer (admin. Northwestern Publishing House). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

SECOND LESSON James 1:16-18

¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my dear brothers. ¹⁷ Every good act of giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the lights, who does not change or shift like a shadow. ¹⁸ Just as he planned, he gave us birth by the word of truth so that we would be a kind of firstfruits of his creations.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia, alleluia. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. Alleluia.

Please stand.

GOSPEL Luke 19:1-10

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. ² A man named Zacchaeus was there. He was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. ³ He was trying to see who Jesus was, but since he was short, he could not see because of the crowd. ⁴ He ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Jesus, because he was about to pass by that way. ⁵ When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." ⁶ He came down quickly and welcomed Jesus joyfully. ⁷ When the people saw it, they were all grumbling because he went to be a guest of a sinful man.

Be seated.

⁸ Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I am going to give half of my possessions to the poor. And if I have cheated anyone out of anything, I will pay back four times as much."

⁹ Jesus said to him, "Today, salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

HYMN (CW 611)

For the Fruit of His Creation



 $\begin{array}{lll} \text{Text:} & \text{Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000, alt. } \\ \mathbb{C} & \text{1970 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.} \\ \end{array}$

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

SERMON Luke 19:1-10

Thanks...Giving

Please stand.

CONFESSION OF FAITH (from Luther's Small Catechism, First Article)

C: I believe that God made me and all creatures, and that he gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my mind, my senses, 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 my goods, 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. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR THANKSGIVING

M: Heavenly Father, every good and perfect gift comes from you. We remember your loving kindness and your mercies which are new every day.

C: We join our voices in grateful praise.

M: For the beauty and bounty of the world; for day and night, summer and winter, seed-time and harvest; and for the varied joys that every season brings;

C: We give you thanks, O God.

M: For the joys and comforts of life; for homes and families; for friends, neighbors, and coworkers; and for the love of those you have put into our lives;

C: We give you thanks, O God.

M: For the opportunities you give us to serve others; for the tasks and trials you place before us; and for the comfort we are blessed to bring to those around us;

C: We give you thanks, O God.

M: For the gift of Jesus Christ; for the forgiveness of sins and justification in your sight that is ours through faith; and for the many and varied ways of living out this faith in our lives;

C: We give you thanks, O God.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: For the sure and certain hope of heaven; for the promise that we will one day stand before your throne; and for the unending joy that will be ours when we join our voices with all the saints in your presence;

C: We give you thanks, O God.

M: Until that glorious day, cause us to live our lives in gratitude to you.

C: Send us out into the world to daily praise and thank you for all your undeserved blessings. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

THE 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.

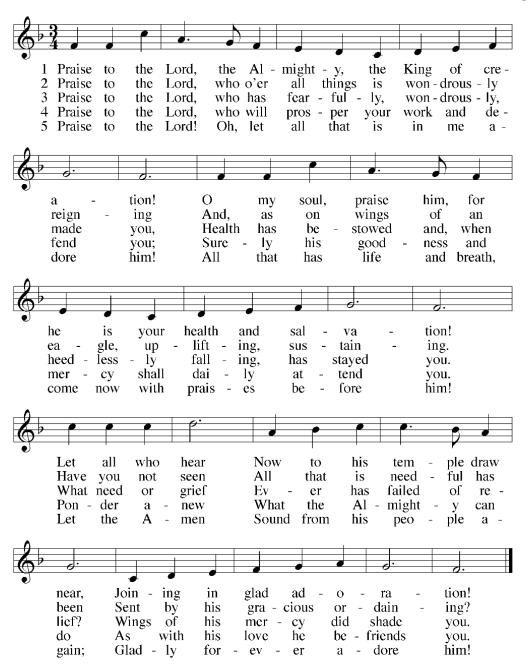
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen. (spoken)

CLOSING HYMN (CW 234 v. 1, 4-5)

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-80; tr. composite.

Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN (14 14 478) Ander Theil Des Erneuerten Gesang-Buchs, Stralsund, 1665, alt.

WELS CHRISTIAN AID AND RELIEF

Each Thanksgiving we enter God's house to give him thanks and praise for his many blessings to us. He gives us daily bread in abundance—all we need for body and life. He gives us the Bread of Life, Jesus Christ, who fills our souls with the peace of forgiveness and the hope of heaven. Of course, we don't just give thanks for these blessings in public worship. We give thanks through our actions as we love and serve our neighbors. One way to show such love is by helping those who are struggling with various physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. With your faithful participation and generous support, WELS Christian Aid and Relief assists those in need in three ways: By offering relief for those impacted by natural disasters, by supporting humanitarian aid projects in our WELS mission fields both at home and abroad, and by assisting WELS members who are dealing with extreme medical or financial challenges. Your special gifts provide critical assistance to people who are suffering and result in many opportunities to share the precious gospel of our Savior. We thank you and we thank God for you!

Christian Aid and Relief grant totals for fiscal year 21-22:

\$1,105,476

GRANT SUMMARY

Disaster relief: \$306,125 was utilized for disaster relief. Most recently we have provided disaster relief for those impacted by the Waukesha Parade tragedy, Kentucky tornados, Hurricane Ida, and the war in Ukraine.

Humanitarian aid: \$509,107 helped to provide basic needs for people all over the world. Home missions receiving humanitarian aid grants include mission congregations in Canada, Nevada, Colorado, Washington, Florida, and Texas. World mission fields in Africa, Asia, and Europe also received assistance.

Personal grants: \$290,244 was used to fund personal grants given through our congregations to assist people going through a health or financial crisis.



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To learn more, visit wels.net/relief and fb.com/WELSChristianAidandRelief.

If a need arises for humanitarian aid or disaster relief in your area,
please contact director Rev. Daniel Sims.