

# *Peace Lutheran Church*

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## **CELEBRATION OF THANKSGIVING November 22, 2023**



**As We Gather** Thanksgiving is not a holy day on the Church's calendar, but a day of national thanksgiving when Americans take a moment to reflect on the blessings given to us individually and as a nation and to give thanks for those blessings. We might think it is easy to be thankful---especially since we have so much for which to be thankful. The truth is thanksgiving is an attitude that must be cultured in us. Tonight we hear how ten lepers received a great gift from God but only one thought to return and to give thanks to the One who gave him such a gift. Tonight we pray that we may not forget all the Lord's benefits but remember to acknowledge His goodness and to give thanks to Him.

**Childcare.** A room for parents with small children is located near the church entryway. If you need guidance please see an usher.

**Hearing aids and large print bulletins are available.** If you would like a hearing aid or large print bulletin please see an usher.

**RINGING OF THE BELL  
PRELUDE  
WELCOME**

**OPENING HYMN**

**“Come, Ye Thankful People Come”**



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; Raise the song of har-vest home.  
2 All the world is God's own field, Fruit un - to His praise to yield;  
3 For the Lord, our God, shall come And shall take His har-vest home,  
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come To Thy fi - nal har-vest home;



All be safe - ly gath - ered in Ere the win - ter storms be - gin;  
Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, Un - to joy or sor - row grown.  
From His field shall in that day All of - fens - es purge a - way,  
Gath - er Thou Thy peo - ple in, Free from sor-row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro-vide For our wants to be sup-plied.  
First the blade and then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap - pear.  
Give His an - gels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,  
There, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, In Thy gar - ner to a - bide:



Come to God's own tem - ple, come; Raise the song of har-vest home.  
Lord of har - vest, grant that we Whole - some grain and pure may be.  
But the fruit - ful ears to store In His gar - ner ev - er - more.  
Come with all Thine an - gels, come, Raise the glo - rious har-vest home.

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**INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen**

**PSALM 100**

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

People: **Serve the LORD with gladness!**

**Come into his presence with singing!**

Pastor: Know that the LORD, he is God!

People: **It is he who made us, and we are his;**

**we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

Pastor: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!

People: **Give thanks to him; bless his name!**

Pastor: For the LORD is good;

People: **his steadfast love endures forever,  
and his faithfulness to all generations.**

**CONFESSION OF SINS**

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

People: **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord grants you pardon, forgiveness and remission of all your sins. It is by grace we are saved, through faith in Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God!

People: **Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

**“Sing to the Lord of Harvest”**



1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest, Sing songs of love and praise;  
2 God makes the clouds rain good - ness, The des - erts bloom and spring,  
3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar The gifts His good - ness gave,



With joy - ful hearts and voic - es Your al - le - lu - ias raise.  
The hills leap up in glad - ness, The val - leys laugh and sing.  
The gold - en sheaves of har - vest, The souls Christ died to save.



By Him the roll - ing sea - sons In fruit - ful or - der move;  
God fills them with His full - ness, All things with large in - crease;  
Your hearts lay down be - fore Him When at His feet you fall,



Sing to the Lord of har - vest A joy - ous song of love.  
He crowns the year with bless - ing, With plen - ty and with peace.  
And with your lives a - dore Him Who gave His life for all.

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**COLLECT**

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT** . . . . . *Deuteronomy 8:1-10*  
*(Israel is told to obey God.)*

"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. 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. 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. Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. 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, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, 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. And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**NEW TESTAMENT** .....*Philippians 4:6-20*  
(*Paul's encouragement not to worry, but give thanks.*)

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

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. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. 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. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. 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. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. 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. Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. 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. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**CHOIR ... “Canon of Thanks”**

Handbells-Karen Rusch  
Jennifer Merlino



**GOSPEL** .....*Luke 17:11-19*  
(*Ten are healed of a dreaded skin disease, but only one returns to Jesus to thank Him.*)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except the foreigner?" And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

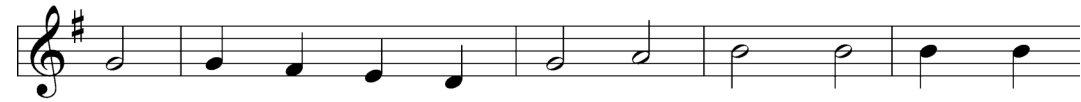
(*After the reading of the Gospel*)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”



1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, Sing to the  
2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; With - out our  
3 O en - ter then His gates with praise; Ap - proach with  
4 For why? The Lord our God is good: His mer - cy  
5 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, The God whom



Lord with cheer - ful voice. Him serve with mirth, His  
aid He did us make. We are His folk, He  
joy His courts un - to. Praise, laud, and bless His  
is for - ev - er sure. His truth at all times  
heav'n and earth a - dore, From us and from the



praise forth - tell; Come ye be - fore Him and re - joice.  
doth us feed, And for His sheep He doth us take.  
name al - ways, For it is seem - ly so to do.  
firm - ly stood And shall from age to age en - dure.  
an - gel host Be praise and glo - ry ev - er - more.

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## THANKSGIVING MESSAGE - Pastor Mike Schultze

### HYMN

### “Praise and Thanksgiving”



1 Praise and thanks - giv - ing, Fa - ther, we of - fer For all things  
2 Bless, Lord, the la - bor We bring to serve You That with our  
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing Food for Your chil - dren, By Your wise



liv - ing, Cre - at - ed good: Har - vest of sown fields, Fruits of the  
neigh - bor We may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, We would work  
guid - ing Teach us to share One with an - oth - er, So that, re -



or - chard, Hay from the mown fields, Bloss - som and wood.  
with You, Har - vest - ing, mill - ing For dai - ly bread.  
joic - ing With us, all oth - ers May know Your care.



## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Creed (*The First Article*)

**All:** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

Pastor: What does this mean?

**All:** 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.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, spouse 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.

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. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

## OFFERING

(Please sign and fill out the fellowship book and pass it down your pew. When finished, pass it back down your pew to the center aisle seat and the ushers will pick it up after the service.)


## VOLUNTARY

### OFFERTORY

#### “We Give Thee But Thine Own”



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What-e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive



All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.  
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

O God, You give us more than we know, more than we notice, and more than we deserve. Open our eyes to Your gifts and grace that we may respond with thankful hearts and use honorably and in faith all that You have given to us.

**People:** **We give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.**

**Pastor:** O God, You give to us the gift of faith, that by the Holy Spirit we may not doubt or fear but believe in You and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. Help us use the opportunity our freedom provides to spread the good news of Jesus Christ that everyone may know what You have done to save us and the whole world.

**People:** **We give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for is steadfast love endures forever.**

**Pastor:** O God, You have bestowed upon our nation many blessings, including land, resources, wealth, and liberty. Make us content with what You have given to us and open our hearts to share Your bounty with the poor and those in need.

**People:** **We give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.**

**Pastor:** O God, You surround us with Your love and care, especially when we are in greatest need. Give relief to the suffering, healing to the afflicted, peace to the dying, and comfort to those who mourn, especially those whom we name now in our hearts  
(*silence for prayer*).

Hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People:** **We give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.**

Pastor: O God, You give the peace the world cannot give. We pray You to bring peace among the nations, still the voices of war and violence, and release those who suffer oppression and persecution. Bless the service men and women who serve our nation in places near and far for the sake of freedom, justice, and peace.

**People: We give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.**

Pastor: O God, teach us how to live holy, good, and upright lives here on earth, that we may shine with the brightness of Your light. Keep us from pride and arrogance and build within us humble hearts of faith, seeking Your will and Your glory.

**People: We give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.**

Pastor: O God, You hear and answer all our prayers; teach us to trust in Your will and to be content with Your answer, that with a confident and peaceful heart we may serve You all our days. Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All: 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

Pastor: From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
**People: may the name of the Lord be praised.** *Psalm 113:3*

Pastor: The blessing of almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, remain with you now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

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### CLOSING HYMN

#### "Now Thank We All Our God"



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voic - es,  
2 Oh, may this boun-teous God Through all our life be near us,  
3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther now be giv - en,



Who from our moth - ers' arms Has blest us on our way  
And keep us in His grace And guide us when per - plexed  
The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



Who won - drous things has done, In whom His world re - joic - es;  
With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us  
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,



With count - less gifts of love And still is ours to - day,  
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!  
For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.





*Please join us for Worship*

DECEMBER 6TH.....6PM SOUP SUPPER/7PM **ADVENT SERVICE**

DECEMBER 13TH.....6PM SOUP SUPPER/7PM **ADVENT SERVICE**

DECEMBER 20TH.....6PM SOUP SUPPER/7PM **ADVENT SERVICE**



DECEMBER 15TH.....6:30PM **PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

DECEMBER 24TH....10AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS  
PROGRAM AND WORSHIP SERVICE**

DECEMBER 24TH....5 & 7PM **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

DECEMBER 25TH.....10AM **CHRISTMAS SERVICE**