

**THANKSGIVING DAY WORSHIP
NOVEMBER 26, 2020**



**ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO**

Preparation for Worship

Psalm 100 (pew bible, p.532)

Opening Hymn: 895

Now Thank We All Our God

Welcome and Trinitarian Invocation

C (says): Amen.

P Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights:

C Who does not change like shifting shadows.

P He chose to give us birth through the word of truth:

C That we might be a kind of firstfruits of all He created.

P Let us pray: All praise and thanks be to You, O God, our faithful Creator and Provider. According to Your word and promise, You take delight in blessing us. With Your good gifts of sun and rain You cause the earth to bring forth its bounty. With Your good gifts of health and strength, You enable us to perform the work You have given us to do. Make us truly grateful for each evidence of Your goodness and give us grace to show our gratitude; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C (says): Amen.

Responsive Reading

From Psalm 65

P Praise is awaiting You, O God, in Zion:

C And to You the vow shall be performed.

P Blessed is the man whom You choose:

C And cause to approach You, that he may dwell in Your courts:

P By awesome deeds in righteousness You will answer us, O God of our salvation:

C You who are the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of the far-off seas.

P You who still the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves:

C And the tumult of the peoples.

P You visit the earth and water it, You greatly enrich it:

C The river of God is full of water; You provide their grain, for so You have prepared it.

P You water its ridges abundantly, You settle its furrows:

C You make it soft with showers, You bless its growth.

P You crown the year with Your goodness:

C And Your paths drip with abundance.

P O You who hear prayer, to You all flesh will come.

C Iniquities prevail against me; as for our transgressions, You will provide atonement for them.

P We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house:

C Of Your holy temple.

First Lesson

Genesis 8:13-22

13 By the first day of the first month of Noah's six hundred and first year, the water had dried up from the earth. Noah then removed the covering from the ark and saw that the surface of the ground was dry. 14 By the twenty-seventh day of the second month the earth was completely dry. 15 Then God said to Noah, 16 "Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives. 17 Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you—the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground—so they can multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number upon it." 18 So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. 19 All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds—everything that moves on the earth—came out of the ark, one kind after another. 20 Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. 21 The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of man, even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done. 22 "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."

Second Lesson

Luke 17:11-19

11 Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. 12 As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance 13 and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" 14 When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed. 15 One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. 16 He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. 17 Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? 18 Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" 19 Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

Confession of Faith

The First Article of the Apostles' Creed
with Martin Luther's Explanation

P I believe in God, the Father Almighty,

C Maker of heaven and earth.

P What does this mean?

C I believe that God has created me and all creatures.

P He has given me my body and life,

C Eyes, ears, and all my bodily members,

P My mind and all my senses,

C And still keeps them for me.

P God also preserves me by richly and daily providing

C Clothing and shoes, food and drink,

P House and home, wife and children,

C Land, animals, and all my property, and all I need to support this body and life.

P He protects me from all danger,

C He guards and defends me from every evil.

P God does this because He is my good and gracious Father in heaven,

C Not because of anything I have done to earn or deserve it.

P For all of this it is my duty:

C To thank, praise, serve, and obey Him.

PC This is most certainly true.

Hymn 785

We Praise You, O God

The Sermon

Text – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

*Give thanks in all circumstances
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

† † †

Responsive Prayer

(Congregation speak words in bold print)

Let us pray to the Lord with thanksgiving for all His blessings and with trust in His mercy to hear and answer us:

For the richness of His creation and for His grace to sustain what He has made, for the bounty of resources that sustain our daily lives, and for the good fruit of the earth by which we and all creatures are fed and nourished, let us give thanks to the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

For His commandments that protect us against harm and guide us into all that is good and pleasing to the Lord, for the Gospel by which we enjoy forgiveness and life, and for courage to share His blessed Word with those who do not know Him, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the government in our land and in the world; for those who lead us in this nation, and for the protection of life and the blessing of law and order, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who suffer illness of body or mind, for those who mourn the loss of loved ones, and for those near death, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the Holy Supper of Christ's body and blood, for faith to receive this gift with joy, for the will and desire to amend our sinful lives, and for grace to show forth in our lives the fruits of Christ's redemption, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For generosity, that we may supply from our abundance those who are in want, and for the offerings we bring in gratitude for the countless gifts of God's undeserved love, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our vocations and occupations, for the gift of labor and the privilege of enjoying the fruits of that labor, and for the unemployed and underemployed, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

In faithful remembrance of the saints who went before us, for grace to rejoice in the mercies the Lord showed to them during their lives, and for the promised day of reunion when the dead in Christ shall be raised and we shall join them in everlasting light and life, let us give thanks to the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

In all things, O Lord, grant us grace not to think more highly of ourselves than we ought, but to honor You above all and to love our neighbors as ourselves. On our own we have nothing that will endure, but You have granted us all things in Christ and the life that does not end. Hear us for the sake of and in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ with whom, in whom, and through whom all honor and glory is Yours, heavenly Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn 790 (1-4)

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

The Benediction

From 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

P Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work.

C (sings): Amen, Amen, Amen!

Closing Hymn: 790 (5)

† † † † †

SERVING US AT GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Organist – Ruth Greening
Ushers – Wayne Ruegge, Joshua Ruegge
Elder – Ed Chiappetti

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214
Thomas Schuetze, Pastor – (303) 428-5524
www.denverlutheran.com

A member congregation of
the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

**A THANKSGIVING DAY DEVOTIONAL READING
FROM MARTIN LUTHER'S *LARGE CATECHISM***

+ + + + +

On the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer
Give us this day our daily bread

Here we now consider that poor breadbox, the needs of our body and of our earthly life. It is a brief, plain word, this petition, but it covers a wide area. For when you pray for "daily bread," you are praying for everything that contributes to your having and enjoying your daily bread, and conversely you are praying against everything that would prevent you from having and enjoying your daily bread. So you must open up and expand your thinking, so that it reaches not only as far as the flour bin and baking oven but also out over the broad fields, the farmlands, and the entire country that produces, processes, and conveys to us our daily bread and all kinds of nourishment. For if God did not cause crops to grow and did not bless and preserve them in the fields, we could never have a loaf of bread to take from the oven and put on the table.

Briefly stated, this petition is meant to include everything that is connected with our entire life on earth because it is only for the sake of this life that we need daily bread. Now, what we need is not only food, shelter, and other necessities for the body, but also peace and harmony between us and those among whom we live and move in our daily business, trade, or association of any kind—in short, we need everything that pertains to the management not only of our domestic but also of our community or civic affairs. For where these two, the domestic and civil relationships, are disrupted and do not function properly, there also the necessities of life are interfered with, until finally life itself cannot be maintained.

A long prayer of many words could be made out of (this petition) by listing all the things it includes. For example, we could pray God to give us food and drink, clothing, house and home, a healthy body; to let the grain and the fruits of the field grow to maturity; to help us to manage our household affairs well; to give and preserve to us a good wife, good children, good servants; to cause our job, trade, or occupation to succeed and prosper; to send us good neighbors and good friends, and so on. We could continue our prayer by asking God to give wisdom, strength, and success to the governing authorities, enabling them to rule well and to be victorious over aggressors and all enemies; to enable their subjects and people in general to live together in obedience, peace and harmony; on the other hand, to guard us against all manner of harm to our body and means of

subsistence, against storm, hail, fire, and flood, against poison, pestilence, and cattle disease, against war and bloodshed, famine, savage beasts, wicked persons, and similar evils.

But this petition is chiefly directed against our worst enemy, the devil. His sole intent and desire is to take from us the things that come to us from God or to interfere with their benefiting us. He is not satisfied to disrupt and destroy spiritual order so as to mislead souls by his lies and bring them under his power, but he also obstructs and hinders the establishment of any kind of order or honorable and peaceful human relations. So he causes endless strife, murders, riots, and war; also tempests and hail to destroy crops and cattle; also pollution of the atmosphere, and so on. In short, it pains him when he sees anyone receiving a bit of bread from God and eating it in peace. If it were in his power and if, next to God, our prayers did not restrain him, we would certainly not be able to keep one blade of vegetation in the field, one penny in the house, or even one hour of our life, especially if we belong to those who have God's Word and want to be Christians.

Notice the way God wants to show us how He cares for us in all our need and how faithfully He provides for our day by day existence. Although He gives these things and sustains them for us in rich supply, also in the case of wicked men and scoundrels, yet He wishes us to pray for these blessings, so that we may recognize that they come from His hand and, when we receive them, feel His fatherly goodness toward us.

† † †

**Oh, that I had a thousand voices
To praise my God with thousand tongues!
My heart, which in the Lord rejoices,
Would then proclaim in grateful songs
To all, wherever I might be,
What great things God has done for me.**



