



Happy Thanksgiving



Let us give thanks!



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4672 N Cedar Ave. Fresno, CA 93726

Rev. Michael N. Vernava

Rev. Khai N. Lee

Thanksgiving Day

November 23, 2023

The Mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to honor our Lord Jesus Christ through worship and ministering to all God's people equipping them for service to God and to each other.

CREATIVE WORSHIP

As We Gather: Calling A Faithful Pastor

O Gracious Father, You led Your holy apostles to ordain ministers for the proclamation of Your Word and the Faithful administration of the Sacraments of Christ. Grant to this congregation the guidance of the Holy Spirit to choose a suitable pastor according to Your will for the blessing of Your Church in this place; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE

Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Peace Handbell Choir

"We Gather Together" – arr. by Frances L. Callahan

OPENING HYMN *"Now Thank We All Our God" LSB 895*

- 1 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 mothers' arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.

2 Oh, may this bounteous God
 Through all our life be near us,
 With ever joyful hearts
 And blessed peace to cheer us
 And 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 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.

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 118:1–4

P Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

C **for His steadfast love endures forever!**

P Let Israel say,

C **“His steadfast love endures forever.”**

P Let the house of Aaron say,

C **“His steadfast love endures forever.”**

P Let those who fear the LORD say,

C **“His steadfast love endures forever.”**

P Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P With abundant generosity, God created the universe, the earth, all creatures, and each of us. He daily blesses and sustains us and all creation. Yet by our sin, God's good creation is broken. So let us confess our sin and hear again God's re-creating word of forgiveness.

C **We confess to You, O Lord, that we are naturally inclined to sin and self-centeredness. We have sinned in thought, word, and deed. In addition to the wrong things we have done, we have also left many good things undone. And like the nine lepers, we fail to thank You as we should.**

P Take heart! Jesus has come to forgive your sins and He will one day return and make all creation new. With joy, I, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus, declare to you His forgiveness. By the command of Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Alleluia! Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, and His mercy endures forever! Alleluia!**

PSALM

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P May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,

C **that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations.**

P Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

C **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity**

and guide the nations upon earth.

P Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!

C **The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, shall bless us.**

P God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

KYRIE

L In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For the peace from above and for our salvation.
Let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of
the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to
the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For this holy house and for all who offer here their
worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

COLLECT

P 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.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT

Deuteronomy 8:1–10

¹“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. ²And 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. ³And 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. ⁴Your clothing
did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these
forty years. ⁵Know then in your heart that, as a man
disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. ⁶So you
shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by
walking in his ways and by fearing him. ⁷For 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, ⁸a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and
pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, ⁹a 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. ¹⁰And you shall eat and be full, and

you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Philippians 4:6–20

⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, 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. ⁹What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰I 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. ¹¹Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹²I 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. ¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

¹⁴Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. ¹⁵And 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. ¹⁶Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs

once and again. ¹⁷Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. ¹⁸I 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. ¹⁹And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 17:11–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹¹On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance ¹³and lifted up their voices, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” ¹⁴When he saw them he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went they were cleansed. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; ¹⁶and he fell on his face at Jesus’ feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus answered, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? ¹⁸Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹And he said to him, “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

MESSAGE HYMN

“O Lord, Whose Bounteous Hand Again” TLH 567

- 1 O Lord, whose bounteous hand again
Hath poured Thy gifts in plenty down,
Who all creation dost sustain
And all the earth with goodness crown,
Lord of the harvest, here we own
Our joy to be Thy gift alone.
- 2 Oh, may we ne'er with thankless heart
Forget from whom our blessings flow!
Still, Lord, Thy heav'nly grace impart;
Still teach us what to Thee we owe.
Lord, may our lives with fruit divine
Return Thy care and prove us Thine.
- 3 Lord, grant that we who sow to Thee
With joy in endless life may reap.
Of ev'ry heart the Guardian be;
By day and night Thy servants keep
That all to Thee may joy afford
On Thy great harvest-day, O Lord.

MESSAGE

**“Remembrance and Thanksgiving”
St. Luke 17:11-19**

APOSTLES' CREED

- C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERTORY *“Sing to the Lord of Harvest” LSB 893*

- 1 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.
- 2 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.

- 3 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.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–75, alt. Text: Public domain

THE BLESSING AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE LOVE LOAVES

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

LORD'S PRAYER

- C 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.

HYMN "What Our Father Does Is Well" TLH 571

- 1 What our Father does is well:
Blessed truth His children tell!
Tho' He send, for plenty, want,
Tho' the harvest store be scant,
Yet we rest upon His love,
Seeking better things above.
- 2 What our Father does is well.
Shall the wilful heart rebel
If a blessing He withhold
In the field or in the fold?
Is He not Himself to be
All our store eternally?
- 3 What our Father does is well.
Tho' He sadden hill and dell,
Upward yet our praises rise
For the strength His Word supplies.
He has called us sons of God;
Can we murmur at His rod?
- 4 What our Father does is well;
May the tho't within us dwell!
Tho' nor milk nor honey flow
In our barren Canaan now,
God can save us in our need,
God can bless us, God can feed.
- 5 Therefore unto Him we raise
Hymns of glory, songs of praise.
To the Father and the Son

And the Spirit, Three in One,
Honor, might, and glory be
Now and through eternity.

CLOSING PRAYER

P Lord God, as Jesus healed all ten lepers, so You graciously provide for all of us gathered here today. You bless all creation with Your gracious provision. Guide our hearts and minds to acknowledge all Your gifts and to live in constant thanksgiving to You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and give ☩ you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “For the Fruits of His Creation” LSB 894

- 1 For the fruits of His creation,
Thanks be to God.
For His gifts to ev’ry nation,
Thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
Silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth’s safekeeping,
Thanks be to God.
- 2 In the just reward of labor,
God’s will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor,

God’s will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing,
God’s will is done.

- 3 For the harvests of the Spirit,
Thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
Thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us,
Thanks be to God.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Organist

