

November 27, 2024

Thanksgiving Eve



We thank You, our Creator, for all things bright and good:
The seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.
Accept the gifts we offer for all Your love imparts;
Accept what You most welcome: our humble, thankful hearts!
All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above;
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all His love.
"We Plow the Fields and Scatter," st. 3

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Our mission is sharing the saving love of Jesus



AS WE GATHER

Welcome to Trinity Lutheran! At the corner of Hayden Hill and Walkley Hill roads in Haddam, Connecticut, stands the colonial home of one of the early resident families of that little town on the Connecticut River: the Thankful Arnold House. Now the location for the town's Historical Society, it is the home where Thankful Clark Arnold and her husband, Joseph, raised their twelve children, beginning in 1798. The house stayed in the family for over 150 years until a family member gifted it to the local community. At one time, "Thankful" was a proper and common name for girls and women. It served as a testimony to the goodness of God throughout that individual's life. In his "Song of Thanks" recorded in First Chronicles, King David exclaimed "Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples!" (16:8). No matter what personal name we may carry throughout our lives, we can individually express our great thankfulness to God for all the blessings that we receive day by day and season after season.

INVOCATION(stand)

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 54:6; 79:13; 136:1; 145:10*

Pastor: Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,

People: **for His steadfast love endures forever.**

Pastor: All Your works shall give thanks to You, O LORD,

People: **and all Your saints shall bless You!**

Pastor: I will give thanks to Your name, O LORD, for it is good.

People: **We, Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You forever; from generation to generation we will recount Your praise.**

OPENING HYMN

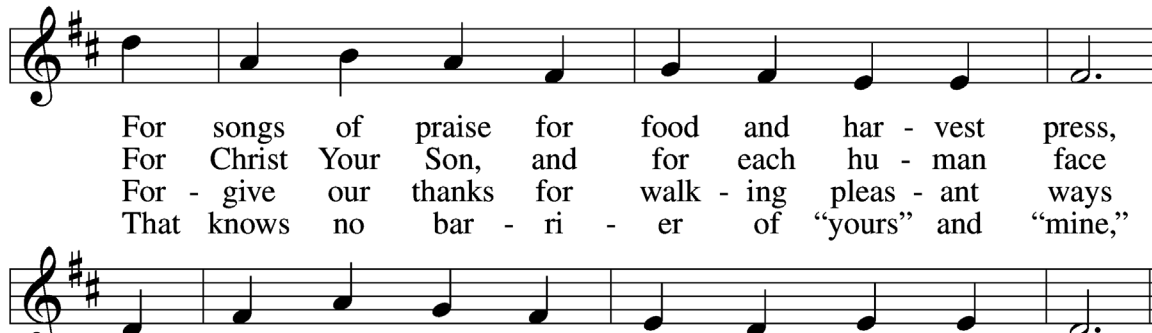
788 Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness



1 For - give us, Lord, for shal - low thank - ful - ness,
2 Teach us to thank You, Lord, for love and grace,
3 For - give us, Lord, for self - ish thanks and praise,
4 Teach us, O Lord, true thank - ful - ness di - vine,



For dull con - tent with warmth and shel - tered care,
For life and vi - sion, for a pur - pose clear,
For words that speak at var - i - ance with deeds;
That gives as Christ gave, nev - er count - ing cost,



For songs of praise for food and har - vest press,
 For Christ Your Son, and for each hu - man face
 For - give our thanks for walk - ing pleas - ant ways
 That knows no bar - ri - er of "yours" and "mine,"

While of Your rich - er gifts we're un - a - ware:
 That shows Your mes - sage ev - er new and near.
 Un - mind - ful of a bro - ken broth - er's needs:
 As - sured that on - ly what's with - held is lost.

5 Forgive us, Lord, for feast that knows not fast,
 For joy in things that meanwhile starve the soul,
 For walls and wars that hide Your mercies vast
 And blur our vision of the Kingdom goal:

6 Open our eyes to see Your love's intent,
 To know with minds and hearts its depth and height;
 May thankfulness be days in service spent,
 Reflection of Christ's life and love and light.

Text: William Watkins Reid, Sr., 1890-1983, alt. Tune: Alfred M. Smith, 1879-1971 Text: © 1965, renewed 1993 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003637 Tune: © 1990 Church of the Ascension, Atlantic City, N.J. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003637

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION¹ *John 1:9, adapt.*

Pastor: I will go to the altar of God,

People: to God my exceeding joy.

Pastor: If we confess our sins, our God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

People: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God, our gracious Father.

People: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, creator of all things, we confess that we are indeed sin-filled people. We are by nature sinful, and sin is present in our lives each day, in thought, word, and deed. We know that have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You require of us. We have not always lived lives that reflect thankfulness to You, the giver of all that is good. We do repent and are truly sorry for our sins. Have mercy on us because of Jesus, our Lord, who is the source of our salvation. Grant that, by the working of the Holy Spirit, we may live faithfully and with great gratitude here on earth until that time beyond time when we rejoice together in Your eternal presence.

Pastor: Our God has promised to hear us and to grant forgiveness to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him for His grace and mercy. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. May you be kept steadfast in the Holy Spirit, living each day in thankfulness to God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

HYMN

892 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.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–71, alt. Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93 Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, we adore You as the God and Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus, and with the whole church on earth and all the hosts of heaven we ascribe to You honor and blessing, thanksgiving and praise. Grant that we may with thankful hearts receive Your great mercies and express our gratitude, not only with our lips but also in our lives as we give ourselves to Your service and walk before You in holiness and

righteousness all our days. Grant us faith that works in love, hope that never disappoints, kindness that never fails, confidence in You that never wavers, patience that does not grow weary, and courage always ready to confess Christ, that we may live in Your mercy and die in Your peace; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

SEQUENCE OF THANKS

Pastor: Often in conjunction with the celebration of a Day of Thanksgiving, people individually express that for which they are thankful. A thankful remembrance can well be a blessing. Most important, however, is that proper thanks be directed to the source of every blessing—to our gracious God. The sacred writer of the book of Lamentations reminds us, “The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end” (3:22). As those who confess the triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—it is well that we direct our thanks to each person of the blessed Trinity, beginning with God the Father, our creator and preserver. After listing some of the dynamics of God’s bounty in the “what does this mean” response to the First Article of the Creed, Martin Luther concludes, “For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him” (*LSB*, p. 322).

HYMN

782 Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings

sts. 1, ref. 2

1 Gra - cious God, You send great bless - ings
2 By Your Word You formed cre - a - tion

New each morn - ing all our days. For Your mer - cies
Filled with crea - tures large and small; As we tend that

nev - er end - ing, For Your love we of - fer praise.
end - less trea - sure May our care en - cir - cle all.

Refrain

Lord, we pray that we, Your peo - ple Who Your gifts un - num - bered claim,
Through the shar - ing of Your bless - ings May bring glo - ry to Your name.

✠ WORD ✠

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

HYMN

894 For the Fruits of His Creation



1 For the fruits of His cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har-vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to God.



For His gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks be to God. For the
In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will is done. In our
For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks be to God. For the



plow - ing, sow-ing, reap-ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep-ing,
world-wide task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair-ing,
won - ders that as-tound us, For the truths that still con-found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe-keep-ing, Thanks be to God.
In the har-vests we are shar-ing, God's will is done.
Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.Text: © 1970 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003637
Tune: Public domain

OLD TESTAMENT *(sit)*

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.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 Timothy 2:1–4

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL(stand)

Psalms 145:15–16; 118:1

Pastor: The eyes of all look to You, O Lord,

People: **and You give them their food in due season.**

Pastor: You open Your hand

People: **and satisfy the desire of every living thing.**

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

People: **His steadfast love endures forever.**

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

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

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 17:11-19

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.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY *(sit)*

785 We Praise You, O God



1 We praise You, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
2 We wor - ship You, God of our fa - thers, we bless You;
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



In grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
Through tri - al and tem - pest our guide You have been.
And glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore You, we kneel and a - dore You;
When per - ils o'er - take us, You will not for - sake us,
With You, Lord, be - side us, Your strong arm will guide us.



We bless Your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.
And with Your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
To You, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Text: Julia B. Cory, 1882–1963, alt. Tune: Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck, 1626, Haarlem Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Deuteronomy 8:1–10

Apostles' Creed *(stand)*

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 T everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY

"Create in Me"

LSB 956

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

(God continually provides for us. Our giving should reflect our heartfelt cheerfulness that trusts in God. As your faith guides you, let your offering of all your gifts – time, talents, resources – enable us to move forward in the mission Christ has given us.) Rom. 12:1; 2 Cor. 8:1-9, 12; 2 Cor. 9:6-8

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs, giving thanks to the Lord, for He is good. Gracious God, gratefully we remember Your bountiful gifts to all of us. We remember Your many acts of kindness to Your people through all ages. We bless You for the orderly progression of the seasons and thank You for the bountiful harvest of the fruits of the earth. We thank You,

People: for Your steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray for the church, here and around the world, giving thanks for the joyful message of the Gospel as it is faithfully proclaimed from generation to generation. Almighty God, we thank You for the church, where Your Holy Spirit gathers us as Your people to receive Your gifts and celebrate Your goodness. Bless the work of missionaries, teachers, health workers, and all others who give witness to Your unchanging love. We thank You,

People: for Your steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray for the world in which we live, giving thanks for the amazing place in which we live and asking that we may readily share the bounty we receive from the hand of the Lord.

Caring God, we thank You for the world in which we live as together we pray for the community of nations around the globe. Continue to give us all things needful and grant that we may be good stewards of the earth. Grant that our homes be places of love and care and our neighborhoods be centers of welcome and compassion. We thank You,

People: for Your steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray for those people who are blessings to us in our homes, in our communities, and beyond, remembering our local emergency workers, our national defenders, and the many workers in the agricultural fields across our nation and beyond.

Giver of all good gifts, we thank You for the faithful labor of people living out their vocations for our welfare. Bless the military forces of our nation, those stationed both at home and abroad, who selflessly serve to defend our nation in challenging times and who guarantee our safety in times of peace. We remember those whose labor brings a rich variety of food to our tables in this and in every season. We thank You,

People: for Your steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray for those with special needs for compassion at this time, that they may know the care of the Lord and our care as well. Let us also bring thankfully to mind those who have completed their earthly journey and now rejoice in the Lord's eternal kingdom.

Lord of time and of eternity, we remember in our petitions those with special concerns and needs including the ill, the hospitalized, and the homebound, those who sorrow, the unemployed and underemployed. Grant that we find purpose and blessing in assisting those who need our concern and our care. On this Day of Thanksgiving, we also recall those no longer among us on earth, who now rejoice in the glorious light of Your heavenly kingdom. May we be inspired by their faithful witness and seek to be Your agents of blessing during our earthly lives as we look forward to that time when we rejoice together and give You eternal thanks and praise. We thank You,

People: **for Your steadfast love endures forever. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.**

Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

(Matthew 6:9-13)

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

782 Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings

sts. ref, 3-4

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words split across lines. The first staff has a '3' and a '4' with a triangle symbol above the first two measures, indicating a triplet and a quarter note respectively. The second staff has a '4' with a triangle symbol above the first measure, indicating a quarter note. The third staff has a '4' with a triangle symbol above the first measure, indicating a quarter note. The fourth staff is the refrain, marked 'Refrain' below the first measure. The fifth staff is the final line of the hymn.

3 In His earth - ly life, our Sav - ior
△ 4 Heav'n - ly Fa - ther, may our car - ing
Knew the care of faith - ful friends; May our deeds of
Bear the im - print of Your grace; With the Son and
ded - i - ca - tion Of - fer love that nev - er ends.
Ho - ly Spir - it, Praise be Yours in ev - 'ry place!
Refrain
Lord, we pray that we, Your peo - ple Who Your gifts un - num - bered claim,
Through the shar - ing of Your bless - ings May bring glo - ry to Your name.

PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, You crown the fields with Your blessing and permit us to gather the fruits of the earth. As stewards of Your creation, may we receive Your gifts in humble thankfulness and share Your bounty with those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

HYMN 893 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.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–75, alt. Tune: Johann Steurlein, 1546–1613 Text and tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

