



Thanksgiving Eve

November 22, 2023 + 7 PM

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

St. Teresa of Kolkata

Roman Catholic Church

West Salem Presbyterian Church

Pastor Jonathan Schmidt + Pastor Jean Schmidt
Monsignor Jeffrey Burrill + Pastor Dan McCurdy

Linda Berg, Musician + Eric Sorenson, Choir Director
Vicki Arndt, Reader

Welcome! The three participating communities of faith welcome you to our worship this evening. We give thanks for your presence and ask God’s blessings upon you. If you have no church home, we welcome you to explore and discover what each of these congregations has to offer as a place of nurture, discipleship, and community.

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Prelude

We gather here this evening, as the time of harvest comes to a close, to give thanks for the gifts of the land, the gifts which sustain us in our journey of life. But we also give thanks for other gifts – the people in our lives, the opportunities we have, and all the joys and wonders of creation. Most of all, we give thanks for life in Jesus.

Choir Anthem “Thanksgiving Medley”

Psalm 65

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; and to you shall vows be performed, O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come.

For your invitation to walk as disciples of Jesus, we give you thanks!

When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions.

For the gift of forgiveness, we give you thanks!

Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple.

For our place in your presence, we give you thanks!

By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation; you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas. By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might. You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples.

For the majesty and breadth of your creation, we give you thanks!

Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs; you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy. You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it. You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

For the many ways you sustain creation, we give you thanks!

You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness. The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

For the produce of the land that feeds your people, we give you thanks!

God of all grace, we come this evening to give you thanks for all you entrust to us, for food and drink, clothing and shelter, health and wholeness. We especially thank you for the community of people around us, and for the communities of faith that have gathered here this evening. Continue to work your Holy Spirit within us that beyond our differences we may see your presence in each other, give thanks for the many ways you work through us to proclaim life in our broken world, and move forward in lives of faithful discipleship.

Amen.

Hymn "We Praise You, O God" #870



1 We praise you, O God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor;
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and mo - thers;
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!

Gospel Luke 17:11-19

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten men with a skin disease approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, 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 made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus's feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? So where are the other nine? Did none of them return to give glory to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

Sermon

**Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.**

Proverbs 3:9-10 ...Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

**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 all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.**

Matthew 14:19-21... Then Jesus ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

**All the world is God's own field, fruit unto his praise to yield;
wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.**

Psalm 95:1-7...O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed. O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. O that today you would listen to his voice!

**On our way rejoicing gladly let us go.
Christ our Lord has conquered; vanquished is the foe.
Christ without, our safety; Christ within, our joy;
who, if we be faithful, can our hope destroy?
On our way rejoicing; as we forward move,
hearken to our praises, O blest God of love!**

Ruth 1:15-18... Naomi said to Ruth, "Behold, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or turn back from following you; for where you go, I will go, and where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God. Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. Thus may the LORD do to me, and worse, if anything but death parts you and me." When she saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

**For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild;
Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.**

John 3:14-17... And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Praise the one true love incarnate:

**Christ, who suffered in our place;
Jesus died and rose for many
that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory;
praise the One who makes us one.**

2 Timothy 1:3-7... I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day... I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

**I love to tell the story: how pleasant to repeat
what seems each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy word.
I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.**

Colossians 3:16-17... Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore:
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

Offering

Offering envelopes will be forwarded to the appropriate congregation; loose offering will be given to the food pantry.

Prayers

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the eyes of your heart be open to all the blessings which surround you; may this awareness produce a harvest of generosity in your spirit. May thankfulness rise up within you, not just during this short season, but day after day, from the early morning watch until you retire for the night. May your prayers reflect gratitude, while also acknowledging the needs of others whose situations are so drastically different. May thoughts of Jesus fill your mind, and thanksgiving be your response.

Hymn “Let All Things Now Living” #881



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
 2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and



God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
 sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
 the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.
 deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
 We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
 joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
 till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
 God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

Postlude