

A decorative border surrounds the central text box, featuring clusters of bright red berries on dark stems and vibrant autumn leaves in shades of yellow, orange, and red.

Thankful

*Just as you received
Christ Jesus as Lord,
continue to live your lives in him,
rooted and built up in him,
strengthened in the faith...
and overflowing with thankfulness.*

COLOSSIANS 2:6-7 (NIV)

Should I Take Communion Tonight?

In the sacrament of the Lord's Supper (also known as Holy Communion), our Lord Jesus Christ gives us his own body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. His living presence brings salvation and strength for the new life in Him. As Christians partake of this sacrament together, they make a solemn public confession of Christ and of unity in the truth of His Gospel. We therefore invite all who share the confession of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to participate in the blessings of the Lord's Supper and make this public confession with us. All who plan to come to the Lord's Table should examine themselves as the apostle Paul urges in 1 Corinthians 11. We are to see whether:

- we are sorry for our sins
- we believe in our Savior Jesus and in His words in the Sacrament
- we plan, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to change our sinful lives

Our desire is not to exclude anyone from this sacrament, but to make a witness to our unity in the true faith. For that reason, we respectfully request that you would refrain from participating in the Lord's Supper tonight if you:

- are not sure what it means
- are unforgiving, refusing to be reconciled with someone
- have not been instructed in the Lutheran faith
- hold to the teachings of another denomination

We make such a request because we are concerned for your well-being. The Bible teaches that “anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself” (1 Corinthians 11: 27—29). In Christian love for our neighbor, we do not want anyone to participate in this sacrament to his or her spiritual harm. In the Lutheran Church, we are united in the belief that when Jesus says, “This is my body...This is my blood” (Matthew 26: 26, 28), He is speaking the truth. In faith we “recognize the body of the Lord.” To participate without doing so is spiritually damaging.

Holy Scripture also records Jesus saying, “If you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins” (Matthew 6: 15). We are not allowed to help ourselves to God's forgiveness while planning to withhold it from our neighbor. This attitude reveals that one does not really believe that God has granted forgiveness in Jesus Christ.

Further, the Bible informs us that “Whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes” (1 Corinthians 11: 26). *While the Lord's Supper is a personal matter, it is not private.* Participation in the Lord's Supper at this altar is a public act. By participating, one says, “**I believe as you believe.**” In order to say that with integrity, it is necessary to know Lutheran teaching. Our pastor would be happy to assist you in gaining this knowledge through classes or in personal instruction in the Word of God.

Finally, denominational and doctrinal differences matter. The Bible teaches that the earliest Christians “devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer” (Acts 2: 42). Communicating the message of Jesus Christ correctly was a top priority of the early Church. It is a sad reality that today there are serious divisions within the Christian Church over matters of doctrine. We cannot pretend to judge the hearts of individual Christians. Neither can we pretend that differences in denominational teaching are unimportant. These doctrinal differences have real-life consequences in faith and practice. Again, our desire is not to exclude anyone from this sacrament, but to make a witness to our unity in the true faith.

Thanksgiving Eve

November 25, 2021 7:00 p.m.

OPENING HYMN:

892 LSB "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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Stand ↑

INVOCATION: Psalm 136:1-9

P Oh come, let us worship our God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit

C Amen.

P Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
C For his steadfast love endures forever.

P Give thanks to the God of gods,
C For his steadfast love endures forever.

P Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
C For his steadfast love endures forever;

P To him who alone does great wonders,
C For his steadfast love endures forever;

P To him who by understanding made the heavens,
C For his steadfast love endures forever;

P To him who spread out the earth above the waters,
C For his steadfast love endures forever;

P To him who made the great lights,
C For his steadfast love endures forever;

P The sun to rule over the day,
C For his steadfast love endures forever;

P The moon and stars to rule over the night,
C For his steadfast love endures forever;

CONFESSION OF SINS: *from Psalm 51*

P Have mercy on me, O God,
**C According to your steadfast love; according to your abundant
 mercy blot out my transgressions.**

P Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my

sin!

C For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

P Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.

C Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

P Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

C Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

P Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice.

C Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

P Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

C Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

P Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

C Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Sit↓

OLD TESTAMENT READING: *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.

R This is the Word of the Lord. “O give thanks unto the Lord; for

He is good.”

C “His love endures forever.”

EPISTLE READING: *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.

R This is the Word of the Lord. "O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good."

C **"His love endures forever."**

Stand ↑

GOPSEL READING: *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."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. "O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good."

C **"His love endures forever."**

CONFESSION OF FAITH: 1st Article & Explanation

P I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and

earth. What does this mean?

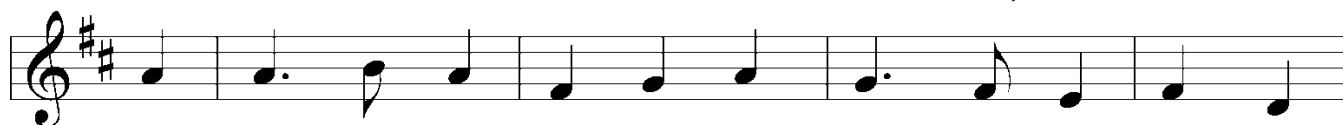
C I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

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

Sit↓

SERMON HYMN: 785 *LSB* "We Praise You, O God"



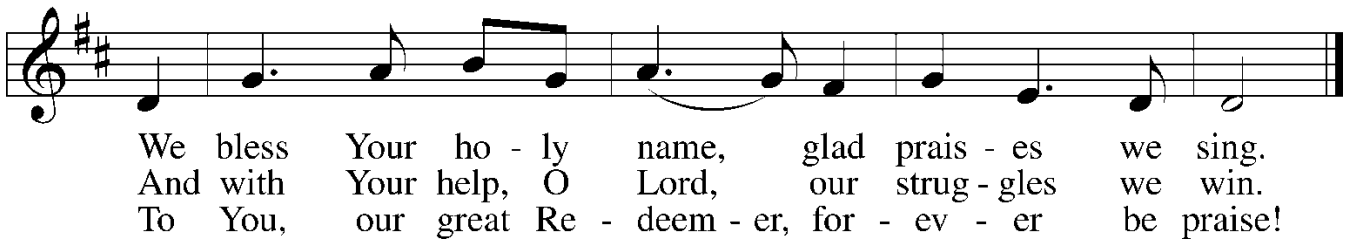
1 We praise You, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
2 We wor - ship You, God of our fa - thers, we bless You;
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



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.



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THE MESSAGE: "Contentment" *Philippians 4:6-20*

Pastor Sundbom

Stand ↑

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING:

(each petition concludes, P: Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.)

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION:

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you

P Lift up your hearts

C We lift them to the Lord

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: heaven and earth are full of you glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P The peace of the Lord be with you always

C Amen.

Sit↓

DISTRIBUTION:

HYMN: 637 LSB "Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"



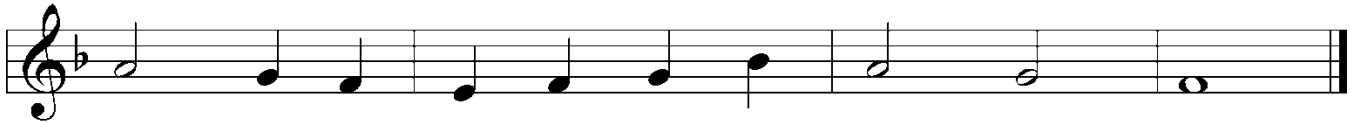
1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,
 2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
 3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,



And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;
 To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;
 And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.



Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,
 With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,
 O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow



Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.
 Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.
 As in this feast of love You bless us now.

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POST-COMMUNION PRAYER:

P Let us pray ... O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION: *from 1 Timothy 2:1-6*

P First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people

C For kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

P This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior,

C Who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

P For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

C Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: 895 LSB "Now Thank We All Our God"



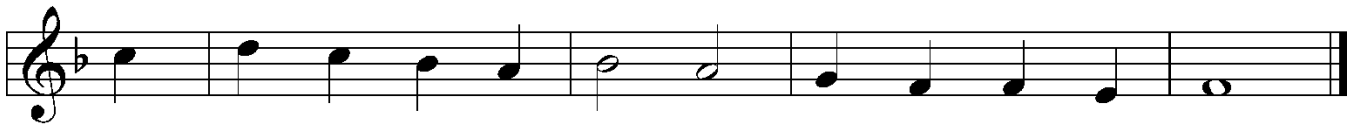
1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices,
2 Oh, may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given,



Who wondrous things has done, In whom His world rejoices;
With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven,



Who from our mothers' arms Has blest us on our way
And keep us in His grace And guide us when perplexed
The one eternal God, Whom earth and heav'n adore;



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.

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Sit↓

SILENT PRAYER:

Those Who Serve Tonight:

Proclaimer: Pastor Paul Sundbom

Organist: Matthew Chaffe