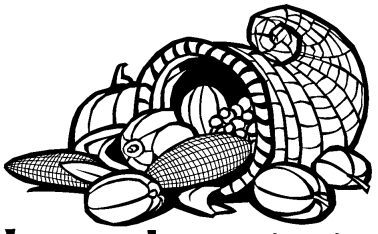
Do not be anxious
about anything, but in every
situation, by prayer
and petition, with thanksgiving,
present your requests to God.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6, NIV



thanksgiving

Grace Lutheran Church & School

460 75th Ave NE
Fridley, MN 55432
763-784-8748

Pastor: John Hein
Email: john.p.hein@gmail.com
Church Year: Thanksgiving Eve

Organist: Jan Davis
Web Page: www.FridleyLutheran.org
Date: November 27, 2024

WELCOME WORSHIPERS! **The Day of Thanksgiving provides us a special time to pause, reflect, and give thanks to God for His countless blessings in our lives. From our early years, we have likely been told: "Count your blessings!" Can you do that today? As you think about the ways the Lord has blessed you in both body and soul, can you ever count them all? No way! God's blessings are way too numerous! Nevertheless, as we name our blessings and number them, we pause at each one to say, "Thank You, Lord!" Even when we go through difficult and trying times—and perhaps *especially* when we go through difficult and trying times—it is vitally important for us to learn from the Word of God and, echoing what is recorded in its sacred pages, respond to the Lord in gratitude and worship. In today's Epistle, we will see how Paul was taught by times of hardship how he could be content. Paul's awareness of God's ever-faithful provision led him to "abound" in thanksgiving! May we do the same today, abounding in thanksgiving to the God who "will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19)!**

A Thanksgiving Pre-Service Prayer

(To be read and pondered silently upon entering church
From "We Plow the Fields and Scatter," st. 3)

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.

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✝ Order of Thanksgiving Worship ✝

Opening Prayer:

Opening Hymn:.....TLH 36: Now Thank We All Our God

Invocation & Call to Worship:.....*Psalm 54:6; 79:13; 136:1; 145:10*

P: We conduct this service of thanksgiving and praise in the name of God the Father who created and preserves us, God the Son who has redeemed us, and God the Holy Spirit who has called us and sanctified us.

C: (spoken) "Amen."

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

C: for His steadfast love endures forever.

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

C: and all Your saints shall bless You!

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

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

Confession & Absolution:..... *1 John 1:9, adapt.*

P: I will go to the altar of God,

C: to God my exceeding joy.

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

C: Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

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

C: 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. 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 lives of gratitude here on earth until that time in heaven when we rejoice together in Your eternal presence.

P: 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 servant of Christ and by His authority, 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.

ALL: (spoken) "Amen."

Response: ..... TLH 27, st. 1,3: Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul

C [♫]: O bless the Lord, my soul!
Let all within me join
And aid my tongue to bless His name
Whose favors are divine.

'Tis He forgives thy sins;
'Tis He relieves thy pain;
'Tis He that heals thy sicknesses
And makes thee young again.

Prayer of the Day:

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.

ALL: (Spoken) "Amen."

Old Testament Reading: ..... 2 Chronicles 20

Responsive Psalm: ..... Psalm 111

P: Praise the LORD! I will praise the LORD with my whole heart,

C: In the assembly of the upright and in the congregation.

P: The works of the LORD are great,

C: Studied by all who have pleasure in them.

P: His work is honorable and glorious,

C: And His righteousness endures forever.

P: *He has made His wonderful works to be remembered;*

C: The LORD is gracious and full of compassion.

P: *He has given food to those who fear Him;*

C: He will ever be mindful of His covenant.

P: *He has declared to His people the power of His works,*

C: In giving them the heritage of the nations.

P: *The works of His hands are verity and justice;*

C: All His precepts are sure.

P: *They stand fast forever and ever,*

C: And are done in truth and uprightness.

P: *He has sent redemption to His people;*

C: He has commanded His covenant forever: Holy and awesome is His name.

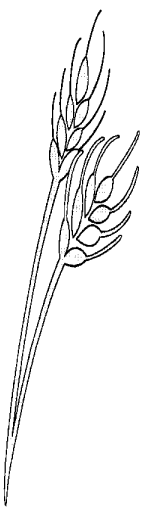
P: *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;*

C: A good understanding have all those who do His commandments.

ALL: His praise endures forever.

New Testament Reading:..... Philippians 4:6-20

Confession of Faith:..... First Article Explanation From Large Catechism



I believe that God has made me with all creatures, giving me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all members, my reason and all my faculties;

And that He still preserves me; therefore richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, meat and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, cattle, and all my goods, and all that I need to keep my body and life; defending me against all danger, and guarding and protecting me from all evil;

And all this purely out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me;

For all of which it is my duty to thank and praise, and to serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

Hymn:.....LSB 809: Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
   There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
   Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;
   As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be. [Refrain]

   Refrain:
   Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
   Morning by morning new mercies I see;
   All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
   Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
   Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
   Join with all nature in manifold witness
   To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
   Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
   Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
   Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]

Sermon:.....2 Chronicles 20:20b-21 (ESV)

20b And when they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem! Believe in the LORD your God, and you will be established; believe his prophets, and you will succeed." 21 And when he had taken counsel with the people, he appointed those who were to sing to the LORD and praise him in holy attire, as they went before the army, and say, "Give thanks to the LORD, for his steadfast love endures forever." (ESV)

"Faith Can Give Thanks for ... Tomorrow!"

- Remembering what God HAS done
- Bringing our problems to God
- Hearing what God has promised He WILL do

Guest Speaker: Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer
Berea Lutheran Church – Inver Grove Heights, MN

Response:.....TLH 27, st. 2: Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul

P: *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Amen* (Philippians 4:6-7)

C [♫]: O bless the Lord, my soul!
Nor let His mercies lie
Forgotten in unthankfulness
And without praises die!

Hymn:..... TLH 571: What Our Father Does Is Well

Offering of Thanksgiving:

Prayer:

P: LORD of heaven and earth, You made all things beautiful. You have provided green forests and refreshing streams. You have arranged the orderly procession of day and night for our work and rest.

ALL: **Thank You for the mountains and the prairies, the roaring sea, and the gentle breeze.**

P: Thank You for the roofs that shelter us, for clothing that protects us, and for food and drink. Thank You for our work, for projects that are done well, and for the approval of supervisors and teachers. Thank You for all who serve at night to make our days more pleasant.

ALL: **Thank You for associates at work, for their encouragement and praise, and for the joys of human friendships.**

P: Thank You for our cities and our countrysides, for farms and factories, for streets and highways, and for all of life that flows so swiftly before us.

ALL: **Thank You for children at play, their boundless energy, and their shouts of joy and laughter.**

P: Thank You for the greetings we receive, and for all the smiles that come from faces loved by You.

ALL: **Thank You for Christian parents, for their affection and their care.**

P: But most of all, thank You for Your Son Jesus Christ, for His coming to us in Word and Sacraments, for His giving and forgiving, and for listening to our prayers. Receive our gifts and offerings as our sacrifice of praise.

ALL: **Lead us in thankful living today and always. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer:

ALL: 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.

Benediction:

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, The love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C [♫]: Amen. Amen. Amen.

Closing Hymn: ..... TLH 568: We Praise Thee, O God

CLC E-Devotion - November 24, 2023

Lamentations 3:21-24 This I recall to my mind, therefore I have hope. Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I hope in Him!"

His Compassions Fail Not

There are many things I can't guarantee. I pray that you all have a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving weekend, but there's little I can do about it if it turns into a disaster. And if it does happen that way for whatever reason, it still will not change the unchanging fact that God deserves our thanks, that God is good, and that His mercy endures forever.

That's guaranteed for us in these verses, which the Holy Spirit inspired Jeremiah to write during an especially bad time for God's people. They were being punished with invasion, exile, and death, just as we may experience punishment in our lives. But God shows His mercy by bringing the Gospel to crushed sinners.

Remember as you give thanks that because of His mercy, we are not consumed even by death. God's compassion for sinners never fails. He is so faithful in His work to save you that He will bring you His mercy every morning, whether it's confessing your sins and remembering the mercy of your baptism, or going to His word to receive faith in the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. Let us always put our hope in the truth that our Lord is worthy of thanks, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever.