

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Thanksgiving 2020



GIVE US EACH DAY

OUR DAILY BREAD.

LUKE 11:3

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† THE ORDER OF THANKSGIVING WORSHIP †

Preparation:.....*Psalm 145, p. 155-156*

Opening Prayer:

Hymn:*WS 743: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Confession of Sins:

P: *We begin this service of Thanksgiving in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Beloved in the Lord, let us come before God in true repentance to receive God's mercy and grace in Christ.

C: Oh Gracious Lord, You have given us many blessings, far more than we could ever deserve. Yet we often repay You with complaining rather than thankfulness. What ungrateful sinners we are. We pray for Your mercy and forgiveness for Jesus' sake. Grant that we may be thankful for all Your blessings.

P: *God our heavenly Father has had mercy upon us. He has sent His only Son to die in our place. And for His sake has forgiven us all our sins. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Let us rejoice in the Lord our God!*

Congregational Response:*TLH 33, st. 1*

The Lord hath helped me hitherto
By His surpassing favor;
His mercies ev'ry morn were new,
His kindness did not waver.
God hitherto hath been my Guide,
Hath pleasures hitherto supplied,
And hitherto hath helped me.

Responsory:

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: *Give thanks to Him who alone does great wonders,*

C: for His steadfast love endures forever.

P: *Give thanks to the God of heaven,*

C: for His steadfast love endures forever. Alleluia!

Congregational Response:*TLH 33, st. 2*

I praise and thank Thee, Lord, my God,
For Thine abundant blessing
Which heretofore Thou hast bestowed
And I am still possessing. Inscribe this on my memory:
The Lord hath done great things for me
And graciously hath helped me.

Old Testament Reading:*Exodus 16:1-3, 11-18*

Instead of being thankful, the children of Israel complained that God wasn't taking care of their daily needs. Despite their ingratitude, the Lord provided quail and a bread-like substance called manna.

New Testament Reading:*2 Thessalonians 3:5-13*

When we ask our Heavenly Father to give us our daily bread, He stills desires that we work and labor for it. That which we earn is still a gift of God's grace. We are merely stewards or caretakers of what God has given us of His grace.

Our Thanksgiving Creed:*The First Article*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker
of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?

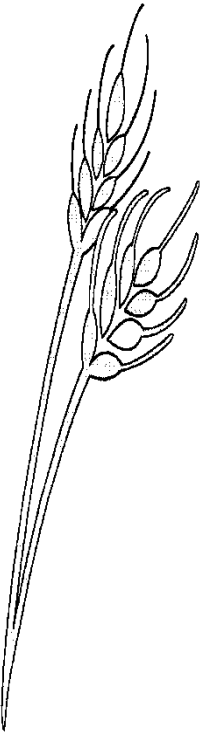
I believe that God has made me with all
creatures, giving me my body and soul, eyes,
ears, and all members, my reason and all my
faculties;

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: *The Lord's Prayer (Tune of TLH 552: Abide with Me)*

1. Father in heaven, holy be Your name.
Your kingdom come. Your will be done the same
On earth as it is done in heav'n above.
Our Father, bless Your children with Your love.
2. Our daily bread provide for us each day.
As we forgive, so take our sins away.
In time of trial, saving Lord, be near,
From every evil our Deliverer.
3. Yours is the kingdom; over all things reign.
Yours is the power; all things You maintain.
Yours is the glory, sound it forth again.
For ever and for evermore. Amen!

Sermon: *Matthew 6:11*

"Give us this day our daily bread." (NKJV™)

Lord's Prayer – 4th Petition: Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread

1. Daily bread described
2. Daily bread provided
3. Daily bread appreciated



Lord's Prayer: **Fourth Petition**

- P:** *What is the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer?*
- C:** Give us this day our daily bread.
- P:** *What does this mean?*
- C:** God gives daily bread without our asking, even to unbelievers, but we pray in this petition that He would teach us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.
- P:** *What, then, is meant by daily bread?*
- C:** "Daily bread" means everything we need for our bodily well-being. It includes food, drink, clothes, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money and goods, a godly husband or wife, godly children, godly workers, godly and faithful leaders, good government, good weather, peace, health, education, honor, faithful friends, trustworthy neighbors — and things like that.

Hymn: *TLH 458, st.5: Our Father, Thou in Heaven Above*

Give us this day our daily bread
And let us all be clothed and fed.
From war and strife be our Defense,
From famine and from pestilence,
That we may live in godly peace,
Free from all care and avarice.

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]

Thanksgiving Prayer:

Lord's Prayer: *Tune of TLH 256*

Note: From "The Lutheran Witness," of Nov 5, 1935 - Author Unknown

P: Our Father, who art in heaven; Hallowed by Thy name;

C [♩]: Father who art in heaven, we pray
Teach us to bless Thy name each day;
Teach us to sing Thy wondrous praise,
Teach us Thanksgiving songs to raise.

P: Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven,

C [♩]: O let Thy glorious kingdom come,
Let Thine almighty will be done,
Now work Thy grace within each heart,
Keep us from sin and Satan's dart.

P: Give us this day our daily bread

C [♩]: Give us this day our daily bread,
And let us all be clothed and fed.
Nourish the body and the soul;
Keep us within the Christian fold.

P: And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;

C [♩]: Forgive us all our sins today,
Take hatred, pride, and guilt away.
As Thou forgiv'st, may we forgive;
Loving our neighbor, may we live.

P: 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.

C [♩]: O guard us in temptation's hour;
Deliver us, and Thine the power,
The kingdom and the glory be,
O God, now and eternally. AMEN.

Benediction: *Based on Isaiah 41:10*

P: *Fear not, for the LORD is with you;*

Be not dismayed, for the LORD is your God.

The LORD will strengthen you, Yes, the LORD will help you, the LORD will uphold you with His righteous right hand.

C (♩): Amen, Amen, Amen.

Closing Hymn: *TLH 36: Now Thank We All Our God*



Lord's Prayer: Fourth Petition

Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean?

God gives daily bread without our asking, even to unbelievers, but we pray in this petition that He would teach us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread?

“Daily bread” means everything we need for our bodily well-being. It includes food, drink, clothes, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money and goods, a godly husband or wife, godly children, godly workers, godly and faithful leaders, good government, good weather, peace, health, education, honor, faithful friends, trustworthy neighbors — and things like that.

From Luther's Large Catechism

The Fourth Petition.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Here, now, we consider the poor bread basket, the necessities of our body and of the temporal life. It is a brief and simple word, but it has a very wide scope. For when you mention and pray for daily bread, you pray for everything that is necessary in order to have and enjoy daily bread and, on the other hand, against everything which interferes with it. Therefore you must open wide and extend your thoughts not only to the oven or the flour-bin, but to the distant field and the entire land, which bears and brings to us daily bread and every sort of sustenance. For if God did not cause it to grow, and bless and preserve it in the field, we could never take bread from the oven or have any to set upon the table.

To comprise it briefly, this petition includes everything that belongs to our entire life in the world, because on that account alone do we need daily bread. Now for our life it is not only necessary that our body have

food and covering and other necessities, but also that we spend our days in peace and quiet among the people with whom we live and have intercourse in daily business and conversation and all sorts of doings, in short, whatever pertains both to the domestic and to the neighborly or civil relation and government. For where these two things are hindered [intercepted and disturbed] that they do not prosper as they ought, the necessities of life also are impeded, so that ultimately life cannot be maintained.

And there is, indeed, the greatest need to pray for temporal authority and government, as that by which most of all God preserves to us our daily bread and all the comforts of this life. For though we have received of God all good things in abundance, we are not able to retain any of them or use them in security and happiness, if He did not give us a permanent and peaceful government. For where there are dissension, strife, and war, there the daily bread is already taken away, or at least checked.

Therefore it would be very proper to place in the coat-of-arms of every pious prince a loaf of bread instead of a lion, or a wreath of rue, or to stamp it upon the coin, to remind both them and their subjects that by their office we have protection and peace, and that without them we could not eat and retain our daily bread. Therefore they are also worthy of all honor, that we give to them for their office what we ought and can, as to those through whom we enjoy in peace and quietness what we have, because otherwise we would not keep a farthing; and that, in addition, we also pray for them that through them God may bestow on us the more blessing and good.

Let this be a very brief explanation and sketch, showing how far this petition extends through all conditions on earth. Of this any one might indeed make a long prayer, and with many words enumerate all the things that are included therein, as that we pray God to give us food and drink, clothing, house, and home, and health of body; also that He cause the grain and fruits of the field to grow and mature well; furthermore, that He help us at home towards good housekeeping, that He give and preserve to us a godly wife, children, and servants, that He cause our work, trade, or whatever we are engaged in to prosper and succeed, favor us with faithful neighbors and good friends, etc.

Likewise, that He give to emperors, kings, and all estates, and especially to the rulers of our country and to all counselors, magistrates, and

officers, wisdom, strength, and success that they may govern well and vanquish the Turks and all enemies; to subjects and the common people, obedience, peace, and harmony in their life with one another;

and on the other hand, that He would preserve us from all sorts of calamity to body and livelihood, as lightning, hail, fire, flood, poison, pestilence, cattle-plague, war and bloodshed, famine, destructive beasts, wicked men, etc.

All this it is well to impress upon the simple, namely, that these things come from God, and must be prayed for by us.

But this petition is especially directed also against our chief enemy, the devil. For all his thought and desire is to deprive us of all that we have from God, or to hinder it; and he is not satisfied to obstruct and destroy spiritual government in leading souls astray by his lies and bringing them under his power, but he also prevents and hinders the stability of all government and honorable, peaceable relations on earth. There he causes so much contention, murder, sedition, and war, also lightning and hail to destroy grain and cattle, to poison the air, etc.

In short, he is sorry that any one has a morsel of bread from God and eats it in peace; and if it were in his power, and our prayer (next to God) did not prevent him, we would not keep a straw in the field, a farthing in the house, yea, not even our life for an hour, especially those who have the Word of God and would like to be Christians.

Behold, thus God wishes to indicate to us how He cares for us in all our need, and faithfully provides also for our temporal support.

And although He abundantly grants and preserves these things even to the wicked and knaves, yet He wishes that we pray for them, in order that we may recognize that we receive them from His hand, and may feel His paternal goodness toward us therein. For when He withdraws His hand, nothing can prosper nor be maintained in the end, as, indeed, we daily see and experience.

How much trouble there is now in the world only on account of bad coin, yea, on account of daily oppression and raising of prices in common trade, bargaining and labor on the part of those who wantonly oppress the poor and deprive them of their daily bread! This we must suffer indeed; but let them take care that they do not lose the common intercession, and beware lest this petition in the Lord's Prayer be against them.

4TH PETITION

"Give us this day our daily bread"



Scripture tells us in Romans that the Heavenly Father, "did not spare His only Son but delivered Him up for us all" (Romans 8:32). Jesus died for all people. He died for all because the Father's desire is that all be saved. The passage continues, "How shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" When we think of the things that the Father gives us in Christ our thoughts appropriately turn first of all to the forgiveness of sins, and the gift of eternal life that comes to all who believe in the Lord Jesus. But shall we not also think of the privilege that is ours in Christ to be called the children of God? If the Triune God did nothing else for us we would have reason to speak thanks without end.

But there is more. In the "all things" of Romans 8, we include even those things which for the sake of Jesus the Father is pleased to give us for our physical welfare. So the Christian is not bashful to approach the Father in prayer and say, "Give us this day our daily bread." We know as Martin Luther says that "God gives daily bread even without our prayer, even to all the wicked." The truth is that if God gave us what we need only when we ask we would have precious little. Too often we forget to ask, and even more do we forget to give thanks! Our Lord provides the rain that waters the earth, and the sun that gives warmth to the earth - essentials to producing food. All people profit, and even the animals of the field and the birds of the air profit. How richly the Lord provides.

Recently we were told that one reason for the difficult economic situation on farms is that prices are too low. And why? Because farmers are producing too much. We will not speak to the economics; we surely will not blame God or the farmer for the economic condition. The point we make is that even in flood or drought the Lord gives the farmer the knowledge and Himself provides the necessities to produce food. We knew of a farm family in the same condition as all other farmers but whose confidence on one hand and trust on the other, was maddening to

the neighbors. This family in Minnesota just believed that there was no reason to worry themselves into a frenzy, whatever the circumstances, because they believed that God would provide in the amount He wills. And that is the way it works!

In the 4th petition of the Lord's Prayer we approach the Lord for physical needs, everything that belongs to the support and wants of the body. But life here includes many needs if we are to enjoy the blessings of the earth. So we pray for "house, home, field, cattle, money, goods, a pious spouse, pious children, pious servants, pious and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, discipline (education), honor, good friends, faithful neighbors and the like." Luther said, "Although we receive from God all

good things in abundance, yet we are unable to retain any of them or to enjoy them in safety and happiness unless He gives us stable and peaceful government. For where dissension, strife and war prevail, there our daily bread is wholly lacking or constantly reduced" (Large Catechism, 1935, APH, page 147)



It is not greedy to pray for things for this life while we await deliverance to the better life in heaven. It is appropriate to pray and then to leave it to the will of God as to how much and what He is inclined to give us. Surely this prayer is also a prayer that is directed against the devil who inspires greed. "Give us this day our daily bread." Each day we pray that the Lord will give us what we need for that day. Where that is the attitude of prayer, we find nevertheless that the Lord so often provides more than we need.

For all of which we want to give thanks. Generally we are not bashful to ask, but less mindful to give thanks. We know that we can never repay the Lord for all that He has given us for body and soul. But a word of thanks is pleasing to the Heavenly Father. In keeping with a word of thanks is an expression of thanks in action. One way that the Lord provides for us is through each other. In sharing with others who are in need the abundance of things which the Lord has given to us, we are putting thanks into action, as well as expressing confidence and trust in the Lord to answer our prayer as we pray again, "Give us this day our daily bread."

May the Lord give us thankful, trusting hearts.

