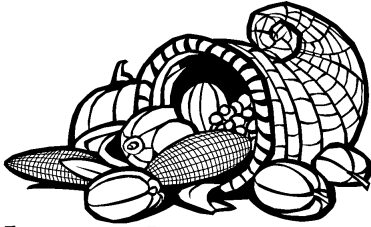




Give thanks  
in all circumstances;  
for this is the  
will of God  
in Christ Jesus  
for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:18



thanksgiving

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

460 75<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Fridley, MN 55432  
763-784-8748

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

**Organist:** Janelle Hein  
**Web Page:** www.FridleyLutheran.org  
**Date:** November 24, 2021

**WELCOME WORSHIPERS!** We welcome everyone joining us for our special service of thanksgiving and praise today. It is our prayer that your faith will be strengthened by the preaching of our Lord's pure Word, that you may live lives of thanksgiving knowing what great things God has done for you. If you are visiting us today, please sign our guest register, and we invite you to come and join us again!

## A Thanksgiving Confession

*(To be read and pondered silently upon entering church  
by, Marie C. Turk in "The Lutheran Witness" Nov 14, 1950)*

*Dear Lord, we come our thanks to say For all Thy blessings large and small;  
Our many needs Thou didst supply, We can't begin to name them all;  
We had not only daily bread, But more, much more: our souls were fed.*

*We thank Thee for the faith that clings To Christ, Thy Son, with power to save,  
Who freed us from the curse and gloom Of death and darkness and the grave.  
We feel a welling in our breast Of joy that we are truly blest.*

*Accept our thankful praise, dear Lord, And keep us in Thy saving grace,  
In storm and tempest be our Guide, And give us at Thy side a place  
Where we may ever live with Thee And those who spirits are set free. Amen.*

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† *The ORDER OF THANKSGIVING WORSHIP* †

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

**Confession & Absolution:**

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: Dear friends in Christ, aware of God's providence and grace, let us come before Him to confess our sins and look to Him in repentance and faith for forgiveness:

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, our desires, our words and our actions. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Nor have we always given You the thanks and praise that is due Your holy name.

Have mercy on us, and for the sake of the Lord Jesus Christ forgive our wrongs. Help us to delight in Your will and to walk in Your ways, giving thanks in all circumstances through Jesus Christ our Lord.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore rejoice and give thanks! God for Jesus' sake has removed your transgressions from you as far as east is from west. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

ALL: (spoken) "Amen."

**Responsive Psalm:**..... Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

P: What shall I render to the LORD For all His benefits toward me?

C: I will take up the cup of salvation, And call upon the name of the LORD.

P: I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving,

C: And will call upon the name of the LORD.

P: I will pay my vows to the LORD

C: Now in the presence of all His people,

P: In the courts of the LORD's house,

C: In the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

ALL: Praise the LORD!

**Response:**..... TLH 39, st. 4: PRAISE TO THE LORD, the Almighty

C [♪]: Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!  
Let the Amen Sound from His people again;  
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

**Collect:**

P: LET US PRAY - Almighty God, whose mercies are new every morning and whose goodness, though undeserved, still abundantly provides for all our wants of body and soul, grant us, we humbly pray, your Holy Spirit, that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness toward us, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

ALL: (Spoken) "Amen."

**Choir:**..... Thanks Be to Thee

**Old Testament Reading:**..... Deuteronomy 8:10-18

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

**Gospel Reading:**..... Luke 17:11-19

**Confession of Faith:**..... FIRST ARTICLE EXPLANATION FROM LARGE CATECHISM

P: Someone might ask, 'What sort of person is God? What does He do? How can one praise or picture or describe Him in a way that will really let people know Him? What do you know about Him?'

ALL: You could say: 'First, my God is the Father who made heaven and earth. I take nothing and no one else as God except Him alone, for there simply is no one else who could have made heaven and earth.'

P: What do you mean by those words?

ALL: What I mean to say and what I believe is that I am a creation of God, that is, He gave me and continuously preserves for me my body, soul, and life, my bodily members great and small, all my senses, my reason and intellect, and so on, also food and drink, clothing, livelihood, wife and child, servants, house and home, and so on.

Besides this He causes the necessities and comforts of life to be provided for me by everything in creation – the sun, the moon, the stars in the sky, day and night,

air, fire, water, the earth and all that it can produce, birds, fish, animals, grains and all manner of produce.

He also gives whatever other physical and temporal blessings there may be, such as good government, peace, and security.

It follows self-evidently that, since everything that we possess as well as everything else in heaven and on earth is daily given, sustained, and preserved by God, therefore we in turn certainly owe it to Him to love, praise, and thank Him without ceasing and, in short, to serve Him wholly and completely, as He requires and enjoins us to do in the Ten Commandments.

**Hymn:**..... LSB 686: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

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|---|--|
| <p>1. Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,<br/>Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;<br/>Streams of mercy, never ceasing,<br/>Call for songs of loudest praise.<br/>While the hope of endless glory<br/>Fills my heart with joy and love,<br/>Teach me ever to adore Thee;<br/>May I still Thy goodness prove.</p> <p>3. Oh, to grace how great a debtor<br/>Daily I'm constrained to be;<br/>Let that grace now like a fetter<br/>Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:<br/>Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;<br/>Prone to leave the God I love.<br/>Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it,<br/>Seal it for Thy courts above.</p> | <p>2. Here I raise my Ebenezer,<br/>Hither by Thy help I've come;<br/>And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,<br/>Safely to arrive at home.<br/>Jesus sought me when a stranger,<br/>Wand'ring from the fold of God;<br/>He, to rescue me from danger,<br/>Interposed His precious blood.</p> <p>4. Oh, that day when freed from sinning,<br/>I shall see Thy lovely face;<br/>Clothed then in the blood-washed linen<br/>How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!<br/>Come, my Lord, no longer tarry,<br/>Take my ransom'd soul away;<br/>Send Thine angels soon to carry<br/>Me to realms of endless day.</p> |
|---|--|

**Sermon:**..... Acts 27:20-25, 33-38 (ESV)

<sup>20</sup> When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and no small tempest lay on us, all hope of our being saved was at last abandoned. <sup>21</sup> Since they had been without food for a long time, Paul stood up among them and said, "Men, you should have listened to me and not have set sail from Crete and incurred this injury and loss. <sup>22</sup> Yet now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. <sup>23</sup> For this very night there stood before me an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I worship, <sup>24</sup> and he said, 'Do not be afraid, Paul; you

must stand before Caesar. And behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you.’<sup>25</sup> So take heart, men, for I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have been told.

<sup>33</sup> As day was about to dawn, Paul urged them all to take some food, saying, “Today is the fourteenth day that you have continued in suspense and without food, having taken nothing.<sup>34</sup> Therefore I urge you to take some food. For it will give you strength, for not a hair is to perish from the head of any of you.”<sup>35</sup> And when he had said these things, he took bread, and giving thanks to God in the presence of all he broke it and began to eat.<sup>36</sup> Then they all were encouraged and ate some food themselves.<sup>37</sup> (We were in all 276 persons in the ship.)<sup>38</sup> And when they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship, throwing out the wheat into the sea.

## “Giving Thanks in the Storm”

Guest Speaker: Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer

Berea Lutheran Church – Inver Grove Heights, MN

**Response:**.... LSB 573, st. 3: LORD, ‘TIS NOT THAT I DID CHOOSE THEE

C [♪]: Praise the God of all creation; Praise the Father’s boundless love.  
Praise the Lamb, our Expiation, Priest and King enthroned above.  
Praise the Spirit of salvation, Him by whom our spirits live.  
Undivided adoration To the great Jehovah give.

**Hymn:**.....LSB 717: ETERNAL FATHER, STRONG TO SAVE

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|---|--|
| 1. Eternal Father, strong to save,<br>Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,<br>Who bidd’st the mighty ocean deep<br>Its own appointed limits keep:<br>O hear us when we cry to Thee<br>For those in peril on the sea. | 2. O Christ, whose voice the waters heard<br>And hushed their raging at Thy word,<br>Who walkedst on the foaming deep<br>And calm amid its rage didst sleep:<br>O hear us when we cry to Thee<br>For those in peril on the sea.  |
| 3. Most Holy Spirit, who didst brood<br>Upon the chaos dark and rude,<br>And bid its angry tumult cease,<br>And give, for wild confusion, peace:<br>O hear us when we cry to Thee<br>For those in peril on the sea.     | 4. O Trinity of love and pow’r,<br>Our people shield in danger’s hour;<br>From rock and tempest, fire and foe,<br>Protect them whereso’er they go,<br>Thus evermore shall rise to Thee<br>Glad praise from air and land and sea. |

**Offering and 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.

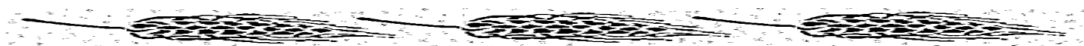
P: And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil, For Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

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:

C [♩]: Amen. Amen. Amen.

## Closing Hymn: ..... (US 793: Sing to the Lord of Harvest



## CLC E-Devotion - Tuesday, November 24, 2020

2 Corinthians 8:8-9 (NKJV) I speak not by commandment, but I am testing the sincerity of your love by the diligence of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

### Thanks and Giving

Paul is giving us some practical advice about thanksgiving, but notice how he starts. He begins with a disclaimer: he is not speaking by commandment. Even though he had the authority of an apostle called by Jesus Himself to preach and teach, he knows he can't tell us how much is enough.

Instead, he asks the Corinthians and us to consider some examples of free giving. The Christians in Macedonia had given an impressive offering of aid to the Christians in Jerusalem. The Corinthians were wealthier than the Macedonians, and they had pledged to give to Jerusalem too, but for some reason they neglected to finish the collection. Maybe they thought they could ease up, that the Macedonian offering had covered the need for the time being. Maybe some had the selfish thoughts that if they gave money to Jerusalem, they might come up short in meeting their own needs.

Either way, Paul points out, the thanksgiving was lacking in both thanks and giving. Did Jesus worry about whether each person would be able to pay Him back for His offering of His life? No- after all, we aren't talking about merely paying for life with life. To pay back what Jesus gave means to pay back the eternal God who emptied Himself to become man and live among us. It's simply not possible.

Our thanks and our giving is always sufficient when it is given willingly, generously, and in faith. And that means the only thing that can motivate us to give thanks is the Gospel of God's overflowing grace in Jesus Christ.

