

**“And now I bring the firstfruits of the soil that
you, O LORD, have given me.”**

(Deuteronomy 26:10a)



Sunday, October 8, 2023

Thanksgiving



Divine Word
Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Let All Things Now Living



1 Let all things now liv - ing A song of thanks-giv - ing
2 His law he en - forc - es; The stars in their cours - es



To God the Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
And sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine.



Who fash - ioned and made us, Pro - tect - ed and stayed us,
The hills and the moun - tains, The riv - ers and foun - tains,



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



God's ban - ners are o'er us; His light goes be - fore us,
We, too, should be voic - ing Our love and re - joic - ing.



A pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
With glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



Till shad - ows have van - ished And dark - ness is ban - ished,
Till all things now liv - ing U - nite in thanks-giv - ing:



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

Order of Service

Morning Praise (CW p. 45)

(We start with the verses after the Morning Hymn)



M: O Lord, o - pen my lips.



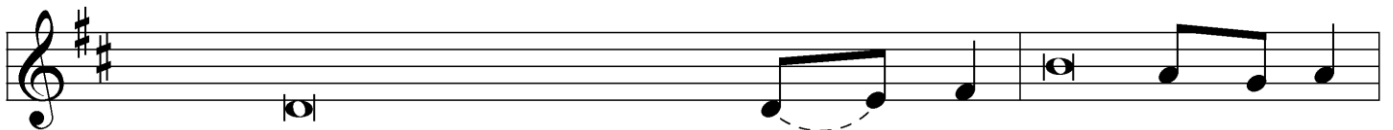
C: And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.



M: Has - ten to save me, O God.



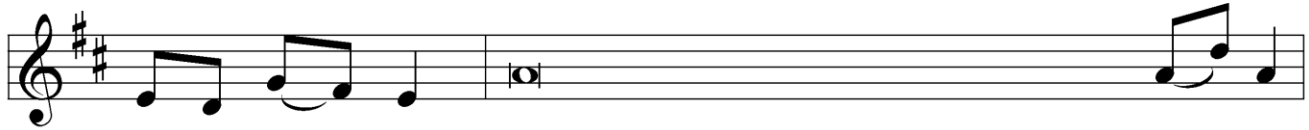
C: O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.



(General) Praise be to God, the Father,
the Son, and the Holy — Spir - it: let us wor - ship him.



C: Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of



our sal - va - tion. Let us come into his presence with thanks-giv - ing,



let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise. For the Lord is a



great God and a great king a-bove all gods. The deep places of the earth are



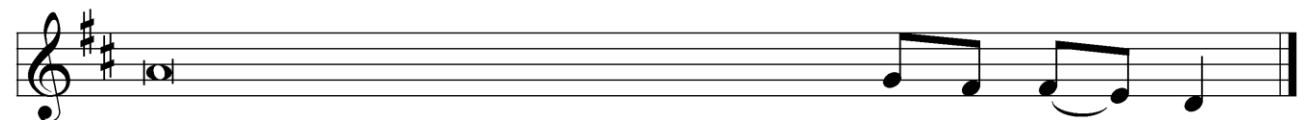
in his hand; the heights of the hills are al - so his. The sea is his, for he



made it, and his hand formed the dry land. Oh, come, let us worship and



bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er. For he is our God,



and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Psalm 147 EHV
(Read Responsively)

C: Praise the LORD

M: How good it is to make music to our God.

C: Yes, praise is pleasant and fitting!

M: The one who builds Jerusalem is the LORD.

C: He assembles the outcasts of Israel.

M: He is the one who heals the brokenhearted

C: and who bandages their wounds.

M: He counts the number of the stars.

C: He calls them all by name.

M: Great is our Lord and mighty in power.

C: To his understanding there is no limit.

M: The one who sustains the humble is the LORD.

C: He pushes the wicked down to the ground.

M: Respond to the LORD with thanksgiving.

C: Make music to our God on the lyre.

M: He is the one who covers the sky with clouds. He determines rain for the earth.

C: He makes grass sprout on the mountains.

M: He gives their food to the cattle

C: and to the young ravens when they call.

M: He is not impressed by the strength of the horse.

C: He is not pleased with the legs of a man.

M: The LORD is pleased with those who fear him,

C: those who wait for his mercy.

M: Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem.

C: Praise your God, O Zion,

M: because he strengthens the bars on your gates.

C: He blesses your children within you.

M: He brings peace to your borders.

C: He satisfies you with the best wheat.

M: He sends his message to the earth.

C: His word runs swiftly.

M: He gives snow like wool.

C: He scatters frost like ashes.

M: He sends his hail like pieces of bread.

C: Who can stand in the face of his cold winds?

M: He sends his word, and the ice melts.

C: He breathes on the snow. The waters flow.

M: He reveals his words to Jacob,

C: his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

M: He has not done this for any other nation. They do not know his judgments.

C: Praise the LORD. Amen

Prayer after the Psalm

M: You, O Lord, our merciful and gracious Father, who has given unto us the knowledge of Your free grace in Jesus Christ, grant us grateful hearts which daily offer to You the true sacrifices of thankfulness and praise, and graciously accept our sacrifices, for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son.

C: Amen.

615

We Thank You for Your Blessings



1 We thank you for your bless - ings, Al - might - y
2 This day of great thanks - giv - ing We count them
3 But best of all your bless - ings, The rain - bow



Lord, our King; We thank you for the har - vests,
one by one: Our free and fruit - ful coun - try,
of your love, Are all the man - y mer - cies



Yes, Lord, for ev - 'ry - thing: For flow'rs that bloom in
The great things you have done, Our fam - i - ly, our
Your Word brings from a - bove. Our life now has full



spring - time, For rip - 'ning fruit and grain, For
loved - ones, The guard - ian an - gels' care, Our
mean - ing— Christ Je - sus is our God! Thanks -



all the pre - cious sun - shine, And for the gen - tle rain.
ver - y self and heart - beat—Lord, hear our thank - ful prayer!
giv - ing shall be liv - ing The way the Sav - ior trod.

Old Testament

Deuteronomy 26:1-10 NIV84

When you have entered the land the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it, ² take some of the firstfruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land the LORD your God is giving you and put them in a basket.

Then go to the place the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name ³ and say to the priest in office at the time, "I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come to the land the LORD swore to our forefathers to give us." ⁴ The priest shall take the basket from your hands and set it down in front of the altar of the LORD your God. ⁵ Then you shall declare before the LORD your God: "My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous. ⁶ But the Egyptians mistreated us and made us suffer, putting us to hard labor. ⁷ Then we cried out to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our misery, toil and oppression. ⁸ So the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with miraculous signs and wonders. ⁹ He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey; ¹⁰ and now I bring the firstfruits of the soil that you, O LORD, have given me." Place the basket before the LORD your God and bow down before him.

611 For the Fruit of His Creation



1 For the fruit of his cre - a - tion, Thanks be to
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to



God. For his gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks
 done. In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's
 God. For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks



be to God. For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing,
 will be done. In our world - wide task of car - ing
 be to God. For the won - ders that as - tound us,



Si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing, Fu - ture
 For the hun - gry and de - spair - ing, In the
 For the truths that still con - found us, Most of



needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, Thanks be to God.
 har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will be done.
 all that Love has found us, Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Luke 12:13–34 (EHV)

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

¹⁴ Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” ¹⁵ Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

¹⁶ And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’

¹⁸ “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’

²⁰ “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

²¹ “This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God.”

²² Then Jesus said to his disciples: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. ²³ Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! ²⁵ Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? ²⁶ Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?

²⁷ “Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ²⁸ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! ²⁹ And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. ³⁰ For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹ But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

³² “Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Response

Give thanks to the Lord; call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done!

609

We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer



1 We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor!
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fath - ers; 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;
To you, great Je - ho - vah, glad an - thems 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,
Your strong arm will guide us; our God is be - side us.



We bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
And with your help, O Lord, our bat - tles we win.
To you, our great Re - deem - er, for - e'er be praise!

Sermon Text & Theme

Deuteronomy 26:10a ... I thank you, O Lord

- 1) . . . for all you have given me.
- 2) . . . with the firstfruits of your blessings.



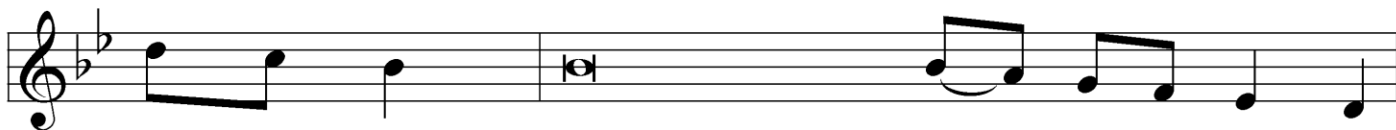
C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,



Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,



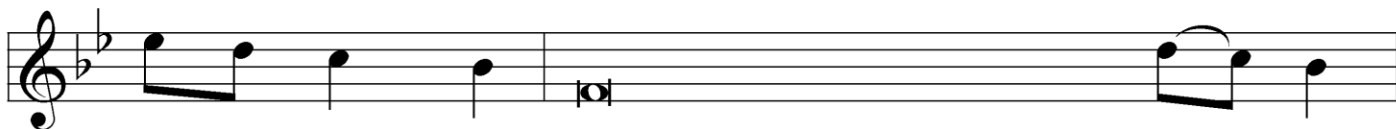
cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of



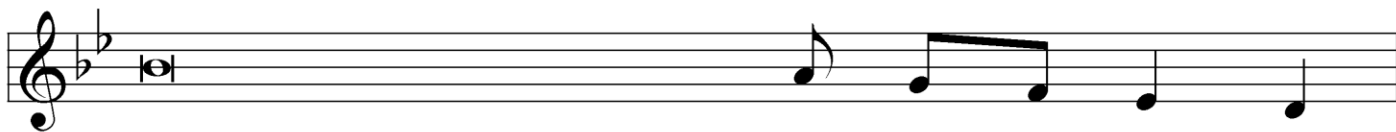
heav'n - ly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of



proph - ets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.



Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



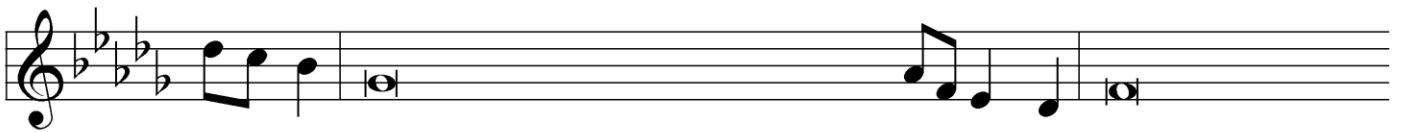
Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and on - ly Son,



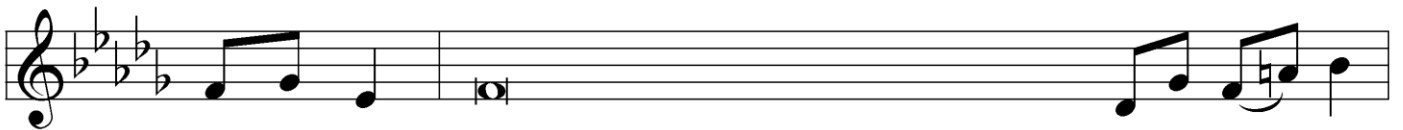
and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide. You, Christ, are the King of



glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther. When you became man to



set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a vir - gin. You overcame the



sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.



You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fa - ther.



We believe that you will come to be our judge.



Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple, bought with the price of



your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

Our Thank Offerings

Worshippers are invited to come forward to offer their gifts and/or private prayers of thanks before the altar.

Lord, Have Mercy



M: In the morning, O Lord, I call to you; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.



C: Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord's Prayer

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Heavenly Father, when you open your hand, you satisfy the desires of every living thing. May your name be praised and your grace glorified. Today we remember with joy the gifts you provide for us. Again and again you pour on us all that we need for daily living: health, strength, companionship, and all our material blessings. We thank you especially for the incomparable spiritual blessings you have given us through your Son. It is true that every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights.

Yet we are greedy and ungrateful. We complain and worry. Forgive us for these and all our sins in the name of Jesus. Prevent our many blessings from becoming Satan's trap to ensnare us. Keep our minds on things above, not on earthly things.

On this Thanksgiving Day, pour out your Spirit on us. Bless us all with a faith that seeks first your kingdom and your righteousness. Assure us that you will supply all our other needs as well. Make us bold to give as generously as you have given to us.

Be with your people wherever they might be on this holiday. Protect those who are traveling. Cheer the hearts of the lonely, comfort those who sorrow, and look with compassion on the poor and needy.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Fill us today and every day with a humble and grateful faith that sincerely prays, "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." Amen.

Prayer for Grace

M: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.



M: Let us praise the Lord.



C: Thanks be to God.

Blessing



M: The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



C: A - men.

610

Now Thank We All Our God



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and
2 Oh, may this boun - teous God Through all our
3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther



hands and voic - es, Who won - drous things has done,
life be near us, With ev - er - joy - ful hearts
now be giv - en, The Son, and him who reigns



In whom his world re - joic - es, Who from our
And bless - ed peace to cheer us And keep us
With them in high - est heav - en, The one e -



moth - er's arms Has blessed us on our way With
in his grace And guide us when per - plexed And
ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore! For



count - less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.
free us from all ills In this world and the next.
thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

Announcements

Church Cleaners:

October 15 – Mark // October 22 – Thomas

Flowers for Thanksgiving

Thank you to all who donated flowers and beautified our sanctuary for Thanksgiving. We truly appreciate it. Please remember to take your flowers home after worship next Sunday, (October 15th)

Anniversary Fellowship Dinner

In Celebration of the Reformation and our Church Anniversary, we are planning a potluck-style fellowship dinner after worship on October 29th. This will replace November's first fellowship dinner.

DIVINE WORD'S TWO WEEK CALENDAR

Su (8)	9:00 am 10:30 am 11:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class Thanksgiving Worship Coffee Hour
We (11)	6:30 pm	"Test the Spirit's" Bible Information Class.
Th (12)	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Illuminé (at St. Paul's) Youth Confirmation (W)
Fr (13)	3:00 pm 4:30 pm 6:00 pm	Women's Bible Study Youth Confirmation (D) Friday Fellowship
Su (15)	9:00 am 10:30 am 11:30 am 3:00 pm	Sunday School and Bible Class Worship & Communion Coffee Hour & Evangelism Meeting Worship and Communion in Poltimore
<p><i>Pastor will be at a conference in Clifton Park NY from October 16 -18. If you need to contact him during that time, please call his US number. (512) 887-8982</i></p>		
Th (19)	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Illuminé (at St. Paul's) Youth Confirmation (W)
Fr (20)	3:00 pm 4:30 pm	Women's Bible Study Youth Confirmation (D)
Su (22)	9:00 am 10:30 am 11:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class Thanksgiving Worship Coffee Hour