

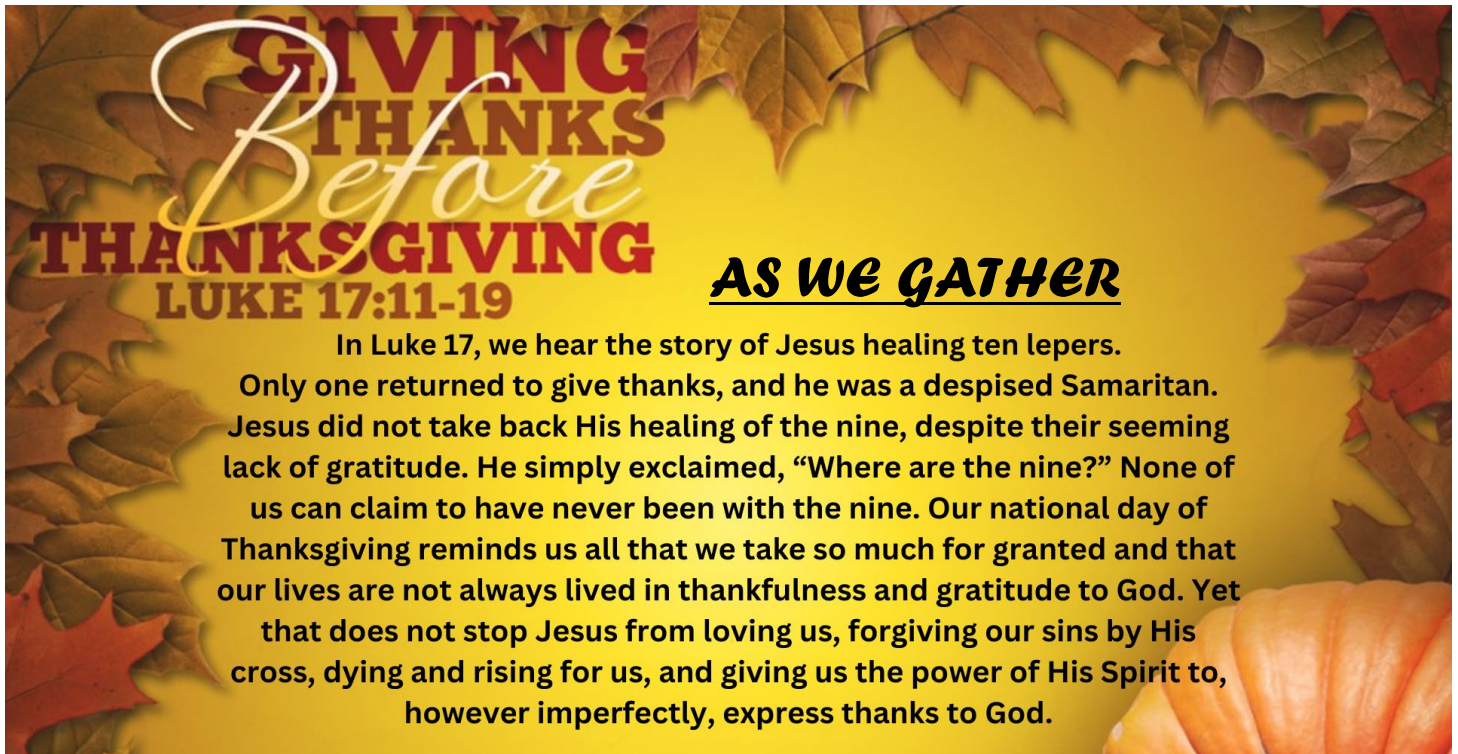
EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

November 22nd, 2023

Thanksgiving-Eve

7:00pm Service

PRELUDE



AS WE GATHER

In Luke 17, we hear the story of Jesus healing ten lepers.

Only one returned to give thanks, and he was a despised Samaritan. Jesus did not take back His healing of the nine, despite their seeming lack of gratitude. He simply exclaimed, “Where are the nine?” None of us can claim to have never been with the nine. Our national day of Thanksgiving reminds us all that we take so much for granted and that our lives are not always lived in thankfulness and gratitude to God. Yet that does not stop Jesus from loving us, forgiving our sins by His cross, dying and rising for us, and giving us the power of His Spirit to, however imperfectly, express thanks to God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG LSB 966 “Before You, Lord, We Bow”

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| <p>1 Before You, Lord, we bow, Our God who reigns above And rules the world below, Boundless in pow’r and love. Our thanks we bring In joy and praise, Our hearts we raise To You, our King!</p> <p>2 The nation You have blest May well Your love declare, From foes and fears at rest, Protected by Your care. For this bright day, For this fair land— Gifts of Your hand— Our thanks we pay.</p> <p>3 May ev’ry mountain height, Each vale and forest green, Shine in Your Word’s pure light, And its rich fruits be seen!</p> | <p>May ev’ry tongue Be tuned to praise And join to raise A grateful song.</p> <p>4 Earth, hear your Maker’s voice; Your great Redeemer own; Believe, obey, rejoice, And worship Him alone. Cast down your pride, Your sin deplore, And bow before The Crucified.</p> <p>5 And when in pow’r He comes, Oh, may our native land From all its rending tombs Send forth a glorious band, A countless throng, With joy to sing To heav’n’s high King Salvation’s song!</p> |
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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES Psalm 118:1–4

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

People: **for His steadfast love endures forever!**

Pastor: Let Israel say,

People: **“His steadfast love endures forever.”**

Pastor: Let the house of Aaron say,

People: **“His steadfast love endures forever.”**

Pastor: Let those who fear the LORD say,

People: **“His steadfast love endures forever.”**

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: With abundant generosity, God created the universe, the earth, all creatures, and each of us. He daily blesses and sustains us and all creation. Yet by our sin, God’s good creation is broken. So let us confess our sin and hear again God’s re-creating word of forgiveness.

People: **We confess to You, O Lord, that we are naturally inclined to sin and selfcenteredness.** We have sinned in thought, word, and deed. In addition to the wrong things we have done, we have also left many good things undone. And like the nine lepers, we fail to thank You as we should.

Pastor: Take heart! Jesus has come to forgive your sins and He will one day return and make all creation new. With joy, I, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus, declare to you His forgiveness. By the command of Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Alleluia! Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, and His mercy endures forever! Alleluia!**

HYMN OF PRAISE LSB 789 “Praise and Thanksgiving”

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| 1 | Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer For all things living, Created good: Harvest of sown fields, Fruits of the orchard, Hay from the mown fields, Blossom and wood. | Sowing or tilling, We would work with You, Harvesting, milling For daily bread. | |
| 2 | Bless, Lord, the labor We bring to serve You That with our neighbor We may be fed. | 3 | Father, providing Food for Your children, By Your wise guiding Teach us to share One with another, So that, rejoicing With us, all others, May know Your care. |

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SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God, our Creator, Your generosity exceeds our imaginations. Fill us with thankfulness for Your divine goodness and mercy, so that our hearts overflow with generosity in our homes, churches, and communities; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

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. ² And 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. ³ And 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^[a] that comes from the mouth of the LORD. ⁴ Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. ⁵ Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. ⁶ So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. ⁷ For 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, ⁸ a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, ⁹ a 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. ¹⁰ And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *Philippians 4:6–20*

⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, 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. ⁹ What you have learned^[a] and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰ I 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. ¹¹ Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹² I 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. ¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

¹⁴ Yet it was kind of you to share^[b] my trouble. ¹⁵ And 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. ¹⁶ Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. ¹⁷ Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit.^[c] ¹⁸ I 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. ¹⁹ And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰ To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 17:11–19*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹¹ On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance ¹³ and lifted up their voices, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” ¹⁴ When he saw them he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went they were cleansed. ¹⁵ Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; ¹⁶ and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Then Jesus answered, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? ¹⁸ Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹ And he said to him, “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY LSB 806 “Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart”

- 1 Give thanks with a grateful heart,
 Give thanks to the Holy One,
 Give thanks because He's given
 Jesus Christ His Son.
 Give thanks with a grateful heart,
 Give thanks to the Holy One,
 Give thanks because He's given
 Jesus Christ His Son.
 And now let the weak say “I am strong,”
 Let the poor say “I am rich,”
 Because of what the Lord has done for us.
 And now let the weak say “I am strong,”
 Let the poor say “I am rich,”
 Because of what the Lord has done for us.
 Give thanks, give thanks.

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SERMON

CATECHISM

Pastor: 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.

Men: He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have.

Women: He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

Pastor: He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil.

People: 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Filled with gratitude for all of God’s mercy and provision, let us pray for the Church, for our nation, for our local community, and for our own needs, filled with thanksgiving that Jesus has promised to be with us always, even to the end of the age. For the Church throughout the world,

People: **we give You thanks, O Lord.**

Pastor: For the pastors, teachers, and all church workers of our Synod,

People: **we give You thanks, O Lord.**

Pastor: For missionaries far away and in difficult circumstances in our own nation, **People:** we give You thanks, O Lord. **Pastor:** For the elected leaders of our nation, state, and local community,

People: **we give You thanks, O Lord.**

Pastor: For doctors and nurses, fire fighters and police officers, construction and restaurant workers, teachers and counselors, and everyone else who contributes to the well-being of our community,

People: **we give You thanks, O Lord.**

Pastor: For Your presence with those who are sick, dying, or mourning,

People: **we give You thanks, O Lord.**

Pastor: For the people in our lives who love us and those we are called to love—families, friends, co-workers, and neighbors,

People: **we give You thanks, O Lord.**

Pastor: For safe travel for those gathering to celebrate Thanksgiving Day,

People: **we give You thanks, O Lord.**

Pastor: For the ongoing generosity of this congregation, which provides Word and Sacrament ministry, Christ-centered community, and service to our neighbors,

People: **we give You thanks, O Lord.**

Pastor: For the life and witness of those who have gone before us in faith and now rest from their labors eternally in the arms of Jesus,

People: **we give You thanks, O Lord.**

Pastor: We entrust our prayers to You, gracious Father, who with Your Son, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit reign forever as God of all.

People: **Amen.**

LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN LSB 955 “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

- 1 Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
That we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
Unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with Your presence, and give us
A foretaste of the feast to come.

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: God of abundant generosity, You supply every need according to Your glorious riches in Christ Jesus. We thank You for gifts of house and home, food and clothing, family and friends. Most especially, we thank You for the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus, who in His body and blood gives us forgiveness of sins, true life, and salvation from all false gods. For all this it is both our duty and our delight to thank and praise You.

People: **To our God and Father be glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: 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 \times 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 \times blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS LSB 617 "O Lord, We Praise Thee"

- 1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish
Our weak souls that they may flourish:
O Lord, have mercy!
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,
That our sins and sorrows did carry,
And Thy blood for us plead
In all trial, fear, and need:
O Lord, have mercy!
- 2 Thy holy body into death was given,
Life to win for us in heaven.
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;
May this feast thereof remind us!
O Lord, have mercy!
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee

That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.

All our debt Thou hast paid;

Peace with God once more is made:

O Lord, have mercy!

- 3 May God bestow on us His grace and favor

That we follow Christ our Savior

And live together here in love and union

Nor despise this blest Communion!

O Lord, have mercy!

Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us;

Grant that heav'nly-minded He make us;

Give Thy Church, Lord, to see

Days of peace and unity:

O Lord, have mercy!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 1): German, 14th cent.; (sts. 2-3): Martin Luther, 1483-1546 | Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004210

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
- ref 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

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POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God, as Jesus healed all ten lepers, so You graciously provide for all of us gathered here today. You bless all creation with Your gracious provision. Guide our hearts and minds to acknowledge all Your gifts and to live in constant thanksgiving to You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN LSB 895 “Now Thank We All Our God”

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| <p>1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices, Who wondrous things has done, In whom His world rejoices; Who from our mothers’ arms Has blest us on our way With countless gifts of love And still is ours today.</p> <p>2 Oh, may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us, With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us</p> | <p>And keep us in His grace And guide us when perplexed And free us from all ills In this world and the next!</p> <p>3 All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given, The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven, The one eternal God, Whom earth and heav’n adore; For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.</p> |
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