



Advent

Lutheran Church



Wednesday, November 24, 2021
Thanksgiving Eve Worship

GATHERING

PRELUDE

**Praise God,
Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow**

by John Behnke

Resound Handbell Choir

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, our Creator, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S CREATION

PSALM 100

A reading from the Psalms, read responsively:

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God.

It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the Lord is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

[ELW 836]



- 1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
- 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S FORGIVENESS

PSALM 32

A reading from the Psalms, read responsively:

*Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.*

*Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.*

*While I kept silence, my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.*

*For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.*

*Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not hide my iniquity;*

*I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.*

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

[ELW 588, vs.1,2]



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;
 2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
 there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
 great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
 There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
 But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
 Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
 there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
 and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
 and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S LOVE

PSALM 136

A reading from the Psalms, read responsively:

give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

God's love endures forever.

give thanks to the God of gods,

God's love endures forever.

give thanks to the Lord of lords,

God's love endures forever.

who alone does great wonders,
God's love endures forever.
who by understanding made the heavens,
God's love endures forever.
who spread out the earth on the waters,
God's love endures forever.
who made the great lights,
God's love endures forever.
the sun to rule over the day,
God's love endures forever.
the moon and stars to rule over the night,
God's love endures forever.
It is he who remembered us in our low estate,
God's love endures forever.
and rescued us from our foes,
God's love endures forever.
who gives food to all flesh,
God's love endures forever.
give thanks to the God of heaven,
God's love endures forever.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Bless This House

arr. Joseph M. Martin
Community Choir

THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S FAITHFULNESS IN US

PSALM 117

A reading from the Psalms, read responsively:

Praise the Lord, all you nations!
Extol him, all you peoples!
For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.
Praise the Lord!

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

[ELW 733, vs. 1,3]



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

THANKSGIVING FOR PURPOSE FOR US

PSALM 139

A reading from the Psalms:

O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Praise and Thanksgiving

[ELW 689, vs.1,4]



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S HOPE

PSALM 42

A reading from the Psalms:

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God? My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, "Where is your God?" These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival. Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

HYMN

How Great Thou Art

[ELW 856, vs.1,4]



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sid - er
 2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y
 birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun - tain
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
 gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
 bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
 ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S COMFORT

PSALM 56

A reading from the Psalms:

Be gracious to me, O God, for people trample on me; all day long foes oppress me; my enemies trample on me all day long, for many fight against me. O Most High,

when I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I am not afraid; what can flesh do to me? You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your record? In God, whose word I praise, in the Lord, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I am not afraid. What can a mere mortal do to me? My vows to you I must perform, O God; I will render thank offerings to you. For you have delivered my soul from death, and my feet from falling, so that I may walk before God in the light of life.

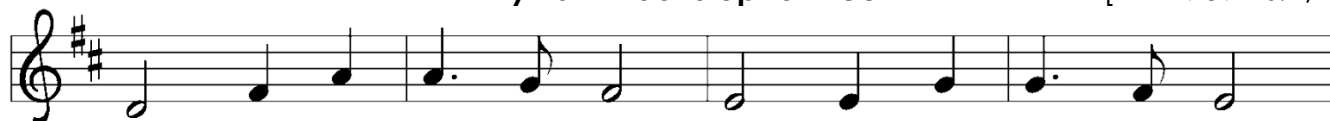
Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

[ELW 759 vs.1,4]



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re-move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S LISTENING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With the people of God gathered here and throughout the world, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

God of grace and glory, you provide teachers and heralds to proclaim your gospel throughout the world. We give you thanks for the church and its leaders, that through their work we can rejoice in your goodness.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You brought forth creation and filled it with plants and animals, seas and skies. We give you thanks for fruit-bearing trees, abundant harvests, rain, soil, birds, lilies, and everything you provide.

*Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.*

You desire that all shall have a peaceable life. We give you thanks for civil servants and volunteers, political and social leaders, and all people in authority, and we pray that they work for justice.

*Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.*

You ground our lives in the love of Christ. We give you thanks that you protect travelers and those absent from worship, and reveal yourself to us in our holiday celebrations. Reveal yourself also to those who spend this holiday alone.

*Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.*

You hear the cries of all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. Hear the names of those we know of in need of your peace and comfort, especially those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts...

*Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.*

You promise us life in your kingdom through the resurrection of Christ. We give you thanks for the saints who have gone before us and continue to inspire us in our lives of faith.

*Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.*

Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, that we commend to you this day, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR GOD

OFFERING

ANTHEM

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

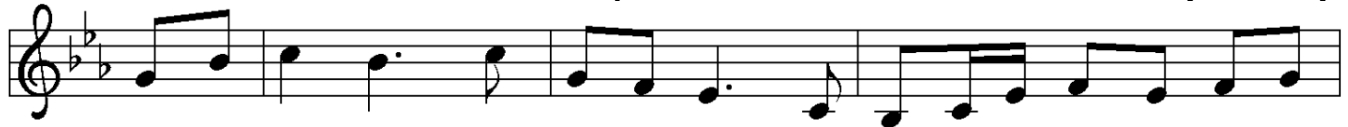
by J. Wyeth

Resound Handbell Choir, Carla Waterman - Accompanist

HYMN

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

[ELW 184]



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble



with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of Life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

SENDING

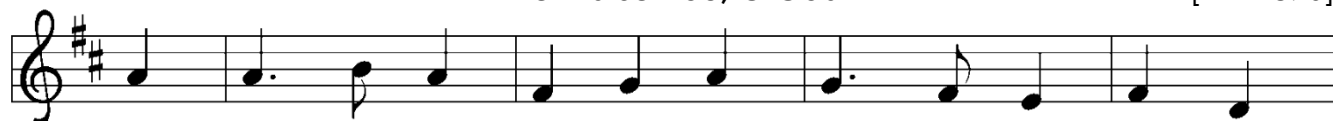
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION

HYMN

We Praise You, O God

[ELW 870]



1 We praise you, O God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor;
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and mo - thers;
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.
and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing 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,
With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.



we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
To you, our great re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

DISMISSAL

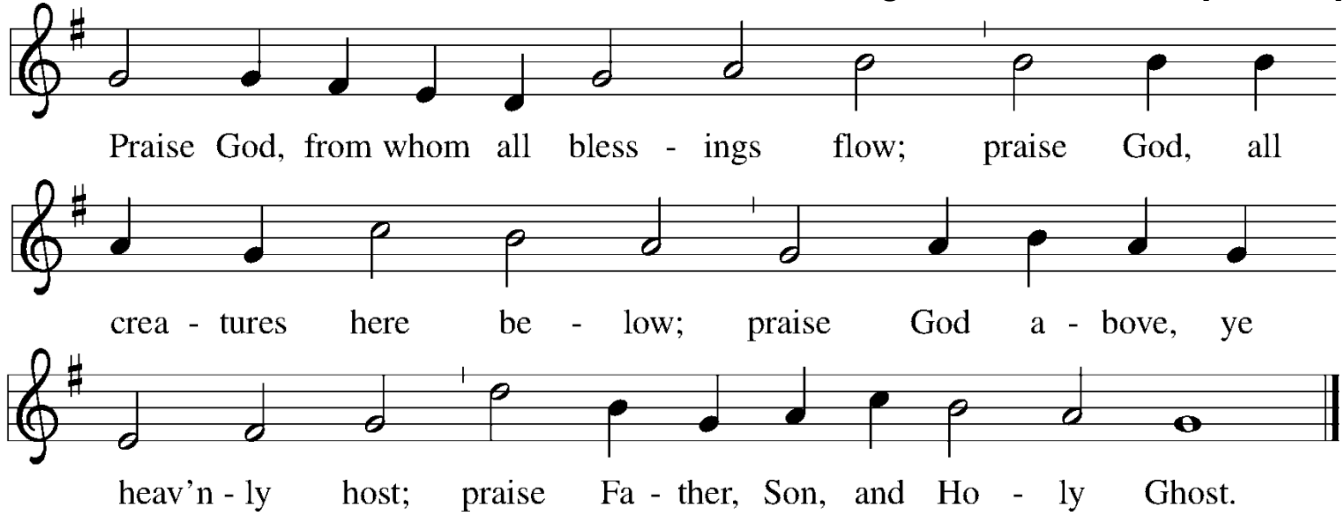
*Led on by the saints before us,
go in peace to serve the Lord.*

Thanks be to God.

TABLE BLESSING

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

[ELW 885]



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

POSTLUDE

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