

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Thanksgiving Eve

November 22, 2023

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 118:24

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

✘ PREPARATION ✘

HYMN "Before You, Lord, We Bow" (LSB 966 - 5 verses)

Before You, Lord, we bow,
And rules the world below,
Our thanks we bring
Our hearts we raise

Our God who reigns above
Boundless in pow'r and love.
In joy and praise,
To You, our King!

The nation You have blest
From foes and fears at rest,
For this bright day,
Gifts of Your hand -

May well Your love declare,
Protected by Your care.
For this fair land -
Our thanks we pay.

May ev'ry mountain height,
Shine in Your Word's pure light,
May ev'ry tongue
And join to raise

Each vale and forest green,
And its rich fruits be seen!
Be tuned to praise
A grateful song.

Earth, hear your Maker's voice;
Believe, obey, rejoice,
Cast down your pride,
And bow before

Your great Redeemer own;
And worship Him alone.
Your sin deplore,
The Crucified.

And when in pow'r He comes,
From all its rending tombs
A countless throng,
To heav'n's high King

Oh, may our native land
Send forth a glorious band,
With joy to sing
Salvation's song!!

INVOCATION

(please stand)

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

People: Amen.

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 self-centeredness. 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!

✂ WORD ✂

INTROIT Psalm 104:24, 27–28, 30; antiphon: verse 33

Pastor: I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

People: O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom have You made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures.

Pastor: These all look to You, to give them their food in due season.

People: When You give it to them, they gather it up; when You open Your hand, they are filled with good things.

Pastor: When You send forth Your Spirit, they are created, and You renew the face of the ground.

People: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy,

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Christ, have mercy,

People: Christ, have mercy.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy,

People: Lord, have mercy.

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.

People: Fill us with thankfulness for Your divine goodness and mercy, so that our hearts overflow with generosity in our homes, churches, and communities;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever.

People: Amen. *(please be seated)*

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Deuteronomy 8:1-10

(Moses calls on the Israelites to bless God for His faithfulness.)

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 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.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING: Philippians 4:6-20

(Paul encourages the Philippians to pray and give thanks to the God who sustains them in all troubles.)

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 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 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. 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.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 17:11-19

(please stand)

(Jesus generously heals ten lepers. A Samaritan is the Only one who thanks Him.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth 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.**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

(please be seated)

HYMN: "We Praise You, O God" - (LSB 785 - 3 verses)

We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;
We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You;
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.
When perils o'ertake us, You will not forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

MESSAGE: "Remember, and Give Thanks"

Deuteronomy 8:1-10

OFFERING

If you are a **visitor** this evening, you are our guest. Please do not feel obligated to give as the offering plate is passed. The offering is an opportunity for **members** to practice faithful stewardship and to support the ministries of Christ's church. Also, a red booklet, the Friendship Register, will be passed down each row. Please record your presence with us today.

OFFERING SONG: “We Give Thee But Thine Own” (LSB 781 - vv. 1-2)
(Please sing as the offering is presented at the Altar)

We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(please stand)

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs . . . Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer

Pastor: Into your hands, O Father, we commend all for who we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has taught us to pray . . .

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God, as Jesus healed all ten lepers, so You graciously provide for all of us gathered here this evening. 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.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

BENEDICTION

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

People: **Amen.** *(please be seated)*

HYMN: “Now Thank We All Our God” (LSB 895 – 3 verses)

Now thank we all our God
Who wondrous things has done,
Who from our mothers’ arms
With countless gifts of love
With hearts and hands and voices,
In whom His world rejoices;
Has blest us on our way
And still is ours today.

Oh, may this bounteous God
With ever joyful hearts
And keep us in His grace
And free us from all ills
Through all our life be near us,
And blessed peace to cheer us
And guide us when perplexed
In this world and the next!

(please stand)

All praise and thanks to God
The Son, and Him who reigns
The one eternal God,
For thus it was, is now,
The Father now be given,
With them in highest heaven,
Whom earth and heav’n adore;
And shall be evermore.

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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MESSIAH PRAYER REQUESTS . . .

For continued healing – Judy Beauford - Steven Haberoth - Linda Fults

For Family and Friends

*Prayers for Family friends of the **Rutledge Family** as they mourn the loss of **Linda Young** and ask for special prayers for Linda's husband **Rich Young, their children and grandchildren.***

*Prayers for **Linda Dicke and family** as they mourn the loss of **Bill Dicke***

***Debra Beard** requests prayers for **Jenny Heth's** healing following a double mastectomy.*

*Prayers for **Mark Giardinelli** as he starts training with the **Mission Aviation Fellowship** ministry.*

*Prayers for the **MAF Family - Will and Jennelle Wolf and their 3 children.***

Prayers for Rolf Schulz and wife, Linda Schulz

***Rutledge Family** requests prayers for Sister-in-Law **Heather Mulledy** battling breast cancer*

***Mario & Eve Betancourt** requests prayers for **Reese Richeson**, 16-year-old daughter of friends, undergoing treatment for brain cancer*

Donna Cifers** requests prayers for her 89-year-old mother's health issues – **Margaret Chamness

***Sally Gutierrez Beltran** asks for prayer for her husband **Felix** for salvation, deliverance from alcohol and restoration of their marriage*

For Messiah's Call Committee and the Pastor God is preparing for us

Prayers for Justice & Peace in the Middle East

For family discord, reconciliation, and healing

Prayers for rescue for those in abusive relationships

Prayers for all those with physical, emotional, or other needs – your will be done

Prayers for all who are lost to hear and receive Jesus' Gospel message

We pray in Jesus's Holy Name, Amen.

NOVEMBER ALTAR FLOWERS

Nov. 5th – Steve & Janet Haberoth – in thanksgiving of God's Blessings

Nov. 12th – Dennis & Sue Parker – celebrating 56 years of marriage

Nov. 19th – Kathleen Jauregui – Jason's Birthday

Nov. 19th – John & Debra Beard – celebrating 25 years of marriage

Nov. 26th – Bill & Linda Dicke – thanksgiving for God's blessings

Nov. 26th – Pam Fields – in memory of Ed Fields

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

WELCOME . . . Whoever you are . . . Wherever you have come from . . . we are so glad you are here! Your presence increases our joy as we praise our loving Savior together. If you are visiting with us today, we'd love to get to know you! Please don't forget to sign your name and fill in your contact information in the red booklets on the inside aisle!

Pastor's Bible Study in the BEGIN Book – Next Sunay - Pastor will continue with *The Gospel According to John*.

Time & Talent Inventories – It's not too late to turn in your Time & Talent Inventory. Please complete the Time & Talent Sheet and return by Email or paper copy to the Church office. **We have received 18 responses from a congregation of roughly 100 families.**

Messiah's Kids Preschool – will be closed November 20th thru 24th for Thanksgiving Holidays.

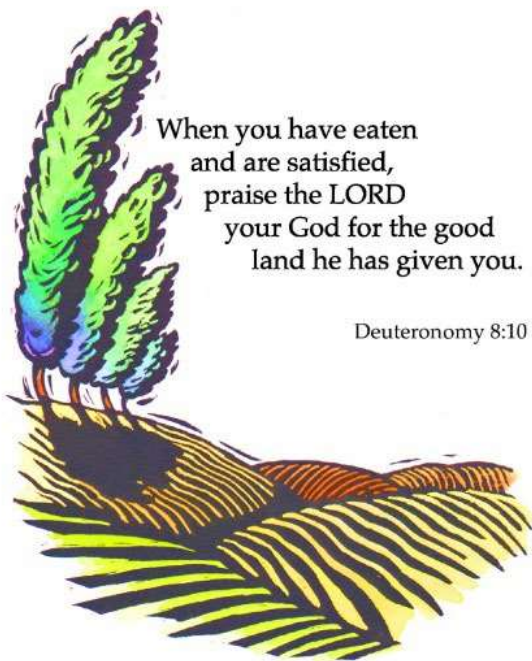
Decorating Messiah for Christmas - Sunday, November 26th following the Worship Service we will staying to Decorate the Church. **Remember "Many hands lighten the load"**.

Messiah's Annual Adult Christmas Party sponsored by the Fellowship Committee tickets are on sale **TODAY, NEXT SUNDAY and DEC. 3rd** - \$10.00 each. The Party is Dec. 9th from 5:00 to 8:00 pm includes Music, Door Prizes, Food, Fellowship & Fun! Plus - a **"Special Thing"** for the **Men of Messiah!**

The Friends Of Our Preschool Volunteers will be hosting a Christmas Blessings Luncheon for the staff of Messiah's Kids Preschool on Thursday, December 7th in the Family Life Center. We look forward to sharing time with Gina Huskey, our preschool director, and her dedicated staff! It is always a blessing and a joy!

Upcoming Events – Detailed information can be found on MLC's website.

- Dec. 2nd - **Messiah's Adult Game Day** at 2:00 pm at the home of Hal & Lindy Eschenko!
- Dec. 7th – **Ladies Day Out Lunch** at 11:00 am gift exchange and lunch at Albe Vita. RSVP to Lindy Eschenko or sign up at church!! Gift exchange is always optional \$10-15.
- Dec. 17th - **Multigenerational Christmas Card Making and Cookie Decorating** is scheduled for Sunday, December 17th, immediately following church service. Lunch will be served! For more information contact Kathy Giardinelli by text at 210-334-8820.



When you have eaten
and are satisfied,
praise the LORD
your God for the good
land he has given you.

Deuteronomy 8:10

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. Dr. Richard S. Lofgren, Pastor

Gina Husky, Director of Messiah's Kids Preschool

David Rhoads, Facilities Manager

Maurine Maloy, Administrative Assistant



THE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod

Serving us Thanksgiving Eve – November 22, 2023

Elders: Allen Leitko & Larry Risley
Tellers: Anthony Sansone
Chancel Care: Kim & Maurine Maloy
Message: Pastor Richard Lofgren
Kid's Message: Pastor Richard Lofgren
Musician: Bob Shoaf
AV: Rutledge Family
Reader: Sharon Loren
Ushers: *to be determined*
Greeters: Sue Theis & Sue Parker

Serving us Next Sunday – November 26, 2023

Elders: Allen Leitko & Larry Risley
Coffee: Janis & Joyce Meier
Treats: Joyce & Janis Meier
Tellers: Anthony Sansone
Chancel Care: Kim & Maurine Maloy
Message: Pastor Richard Lofgren
Kid's Message: Pastor Richard Lofgren
Musician: Bob Shoaf
AV: David & Lorrie Wendeborn
Reader: Kathy Rottman
Ushers: Ernie Mazurek – Hal Eschenko – Mike Lang – Tony Giardinelli
Greeters: Verna Sorensen & Lindy Eschenko

Our Response to God Last Week
Worship Attendance: 105 Sunday School: 27

October 2023 Contributions			
General Fund	\$49,622.54	Building Fund	\$1,875.00
Renovation Fund	\$150.00	Family Life Center	\$4,100.00