

ELM GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
945 Terrace Dr., Elm Grove, WI 53122
Phone (262) 797-2970

Rev. Eric C. Skovgaard, Administrative Pastor ♦ Rev. Aaron J. Reseburg, Associate Pastor
Vicar Sam Lee ♦ Rev. Carl J. Eglhoff, Pastor Emeritus ♦ Miss Stephanie Bahr, Principal

NATIONAL DAY OF THANKSGIVING (OBSERVED)

Wednesday, November 23, 2022 - 6:30 p.m.



© THE FOUNDATION PRESS, INC.
CLEVELAND, OHIO

"The First Thanksgiving"
By Jean Leon Gerome Ferris
1863-1930

"May not and ought not the children of these fathers rightly say: 'Our fathers were Englishmen which came over this great ocean, and were ready to perish in this wilderness, but they cried unto the Lord, and He heard their voice and looked on their adversity...' Let them, therefore, praise the Lord, because He is good, and His mercies endure forever. Yea, let them which have been redeemed of the Lord, show how He hath delivered them from the hand of the oppressor. When they wandered in the desert wilderness out of the way and found no city to dwell in, both hungry, and thirsty, their soul was overwhelmed in them. Let them confess before the Lord His loving-kindness, and His wonderful works before the sons of men." -- Governor William Bradford, Of Plymouth Plantation, 1620-1647, recounting the reasons for the first Thanksgiving feast beginning on Dec 13, 1621

Preservice

Alleluia — Linda R. Lamb

Welcome and Announcements

Responsive Reading

Adapted from the National Fast Day on April 30, 1863, and the Thanksgiving Proclamation issued by President Lincoln, 1863

P "It is the duty of nations as well as of people to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God;"

C "to confess their sin and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon;"

P "and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history,"

C "that those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord!"

P "We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven;"

C "we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth, and power as no other nation has ever grown."

P "But we have forgotten God."

C "We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us,"

P "and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts,"

C "that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own."

P "Intoxicated with unbroken success,"

C "we have become too self sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us!"

P "It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged,"

C "as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people."

P "I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands,"

C "to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November as a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwells in the heavens."

Prelude

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come — David M. Cherwien

Hymn of Invocation

892, Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Old Testament

Deuteronomy 8:1-10

¹The 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.

²And 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. ³And 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. ⁴Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years.

⁵Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you.

⁶So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. ⁷For 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, ⁸a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, ⁹a 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. ¹⁰And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choral Response

Great God Of Nations — arr. Walter Ehret

Psalm

Psalm 67

P May God be gracious to us and bless us

C and make his face to shine upon us,

P that your way may be known on earth,

C your saving power among all nations.

P Let the peoples praise you, O God;

C let all the peoples praise you!

P Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,

C for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

P Let the peoples praise you, O God;

C let all the peoples praise you!

P The earth has yielded its increase;

C God, our God, shall bless us.

P God shall bless us;

C let all the ends of the earth fear him!

ALL 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

Epistle

Philippians 4:2–20

²I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. ³Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, 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. ⁹What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. ¹⁰I 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. ¹¹Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹²I 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. ¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me. ¹⁴Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. ¹⁵And 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. ¹⁶Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. ¹⁷Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. ¹⁸I 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. ¹⁹And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn

783, Take My Life and Let It Be

STAND

Holy Gospel

Luke 12:13–21

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." ¹⁶And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' ¹⁸And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones,

and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

SIT

Hymn

785, We Praise You, O God

Sermon

"Gratitude" (Luke 12:13-21)

Catechetical Response

First Article of the Apostles' Creed with Explanation

P I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. What does this mean?

C 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.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

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

The Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer with Explanation

P Give us this day our daily bread. What does this mean?

C God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

P What is meant by daily bread?

C Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

Thanksgiving Offering We Praise Thee O God, Our Redeemer — Cynthia Dobrinski

(Your Thanksgiving offerings are disbursed by the EGL Board of Evangelism to local, national, & international charities affiliated with the LCMS but not financially supported by the LCMS. This year the offerings will be designated to missionary Pastor Jonah Burakowski)

Hymnic Litany for Thanksgiving

**789, Praise and Thanksgiving
894, For the Fruits of His Creation**

P For the tender love You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit show Your whole creation in giving us life and the means to support that life, we give You thanks,

C and bless Your holy name.

P For the food we eat, the clothes we wear, the homes in which we live, and the opportunity to raise our children in the fear and love of You, we give You thanks,

C and bless Your holy name.

**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. (LSB789, stanza 1)**

P For our families, for husbands and wives, for our school and especially the children of our community with their joy and their trust, for grandparents and grandchildren, for aunts and uncles, for friends and all those who share our Christian values, we give You thanks,

C and bless Your holy name.

P For the fields and their harvest, for the forests and oceans and their bounty, for farmers, fishermen, and ranchers, and their labors, for the good earth and all its abundance, we give You thanks,

C and bless Your holy name.

**Bless, Lord, the labor
We bring to serve You
That with our neighbor
We may be fed.
Sowing or tilling,
We would work with You,
Harvesting, milling
For daily bread. (LSB789, stanza 2)**

P For our nation and all its people, and for the Constitutional freedoms we enjoy; for sincere, honest, and godly citizenship in our Republic under Your watchful eye; and especially for the freedom to worship You in peace, we give You thanks,
C and bless Your holy name.

P For the president, the congress, the judiciary, police and firefighters, for the military and intelligence agencies and all those who protect us from our enemies foreign and domestic, for state and local government, we give You thanks,
C and bless Your holy name.

**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. (LSB 789, stanza 3)**

P For the sufferings that You allow to come upon us for our chastisement and discipline and for the reminder they bring of the one thing needful – to be found in Christ by faith, we give You thanks,
C and bless Your holy name.

P For those who have gone before us in the faith once for all delivered to the saints and who now rest in Your embrace on that distant shore in that greater light, we give You thanks,
C and bless Your holy name.

P Above all for the incarnation of our Lord, for His suffering and death, for His glorious resurrection and ascension and for the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, we give You thanks,
C and bless Your holy name.

**For the fruits of His creation,
Thanks be to God.
For His gifts to ev'ry nation,
Thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
Silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safekeeping,
Thanks be to God. (LSB 894, stanza 1)**

P For the holy Christian Church, for the waters of Holy Baptism, for the comfort of forgiveness found in Absolution, and for the life-giving Sacrament of the Altar, we give You thanks,
C and bless Your holy name.

P For the Sacred Scriptures, for your holy Law that shows us sin and your perfect, eternal will, and for the holy Gospel that reveals the righteousness of Christ as Your free gift to us, we give You thanks,
C and bless Your holy name.

**In the just reward of labor,
God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done. (LSB 894, stanza 2)**

P For these and all Your mercies beyond number and measure, for all of which it is our joy to stand before You in prayer, we give You thanks,
C and bless Your holy name.

P You are indeed blessed and holy and worthy of all honor and praise, O Father Almighty, O only-begotten Son, O Spirit of Holiness. To You alone do we give all glory now and forever!
C Amen!

**For the harvests of the Spirit,
Thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
Thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us,
Thanks be to God. (LSB 894, stanza 3)**

STAND

Lord's Prayer

**C 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.**

Benedicamus

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

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

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

895, Now Thank We All Our God

Postlude

Now Thank We All Our God BWV 79 — Johann S. Bach

ALTAR PARAMENTS: Alternate White.

Participants

Preacher
Liturgist
Organist/Choir Director
Piano
Choir
Handbells
Elder
Chancel Assistant
Usher Team on duty

Pastor Eric Skovgaard
Pastor Aaron Reseburg
Richard C. Ewert
Gene Traas
Exultate Singers
Exultate Ringers
Matthew Stroh
Steve Hipenbecker
Ben Thompson, Sam Thompson, Henry Van Schaick, Aislyn Wegner,
Jake Wegner, Randy Wegner, Rick Wegner, Ryan Wegner

Presidential proclamation: From President George Washington, 1789

Thanksgiving Proclamation of 1789

By the President of the United States of America, a Proclamation.

Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor-- and whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.

Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be-- That we may then all unite in rendering unto him our sincere and humble thanks--for his kind care and protection of the People of this Country previous to their becoming a Nation-- for the signal and manifold mercies, and the favorable interpositions of his Providence which we experienced in the course and conclusion of the late war--for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty, which we have since enjoyed--for the peaceable and rational manner, in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national One now lately instituted--for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed; and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and in general for all the great and various favors which he hath been pleased to confer upon us.

and also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech him to pardon our national and other transgressions-- to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually--to render our national government a blessing to all the people, by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed--to protect and guide all Sovereigns and Nations (especially such as have shewn kindness unto us) and to bless them with good government, peace, and concord--To promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the encrease of science among them and us--and generally to grant unto all Mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as he alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand at the City of New York the third day of October in the year of our Lord 1789.

"The Mayflower Pilgrims" interview on Issues Etc. Consider listening to this interview as a family and answering the following questions as a way to enrich your family's Thanksgiving celebration. Copy the following link into your browser and enjoy!

<http://issuesetc.org/podcast/21891124162.mp3>

#1 Who is being interviewed by Todd Wilken in this interview? Where does he serve as pastor?

#2 Roughly how many Mayflower Pilgrim descendants are there in the world today?

#3 Who were the Puritans? How were they different from the Separatists?

#4 Did the interviewee have any relatives on the Mayflower who were saved from drowning during the crossing of the Atlantic? What was his name?

#5 Which Luther commentary (on a book of the Bible) did Plymouth colony Governor Bradford have in his library?

#6 Did the Pilgrims celebrate Christmas in those early colonial years? Which national holiday that we still celebrate nowadays did they celebrate? How was this different from the southern colonies?