+THE SERVICE OF PRAYER AND PREACHING + DAY OF THANKSGIVING + 25 NOVEMBER 2021



The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod 902 S. Maple Inglewood, CA 90301-3824 tgslcms.org

For the Fruit of all Creation



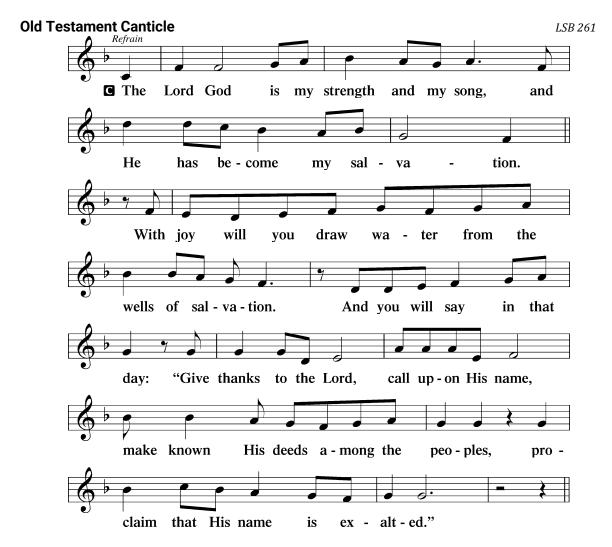
Stand

Common

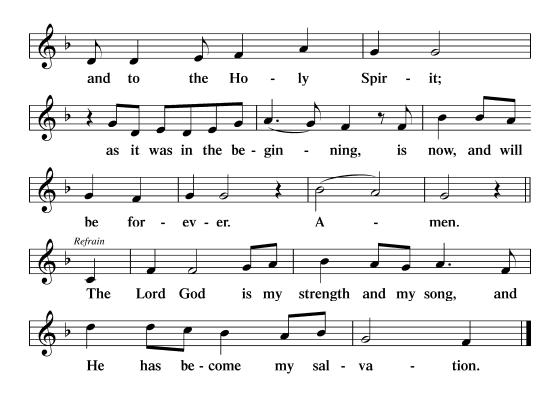
LSB 260

- P This is the day which the Lord has made;
- Iet us rejoice and be glad in it.
- P From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- **G** the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- P Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
- I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

- P Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
- **G** Teach me Your paths.
- **P** Sanctify us in Your truth.
- **C** Your Word is truth.
- P From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- **C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- 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.







Readings From Holy Scripture

Old Testament Reading

Sit

Deuteronomy 8:1–10

P The Old Testament Reading for Thanksgiving is from Deuteronomy, the eighth chapter.

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. 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 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.

Responsory

LSB 263

- **P** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
- **C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.
- P Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.
- **C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.
- P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

Epistle

Philippians 4:6-20

P The Epistle Reading is from Philippians, chapter 4.

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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 17:11–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

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

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

Stand

Ten Commandments

 You shall have no other gods. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Honor your father and your mother. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

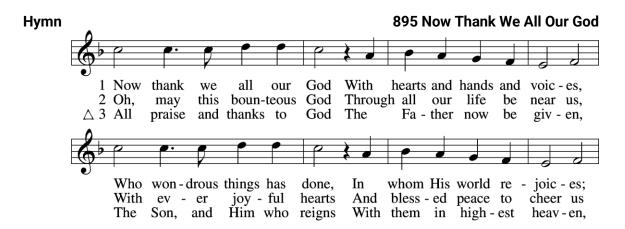
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

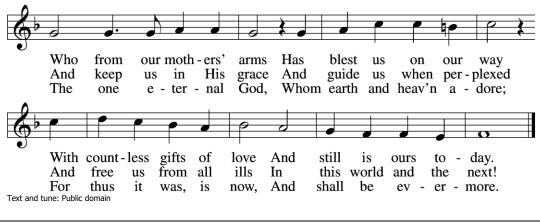
Apostles' Creed

Sit

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.





Sermon

Pastor Edward Killian

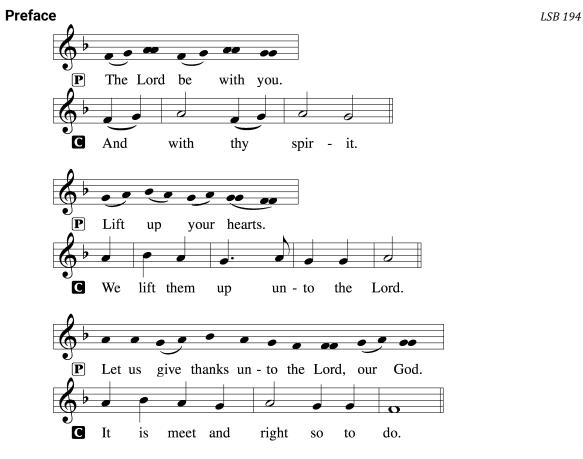
Offering *Collected after service in the back of the church.*

Stand

Prayer

- **P** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:
- IP For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:
- For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:
- For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:
- For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:
- For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:
- For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:
- **P** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

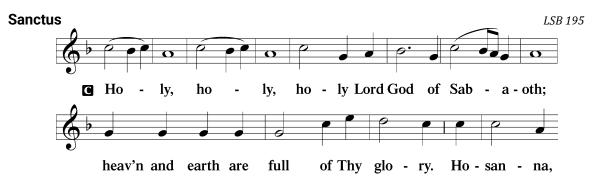
Service of the Sacrament

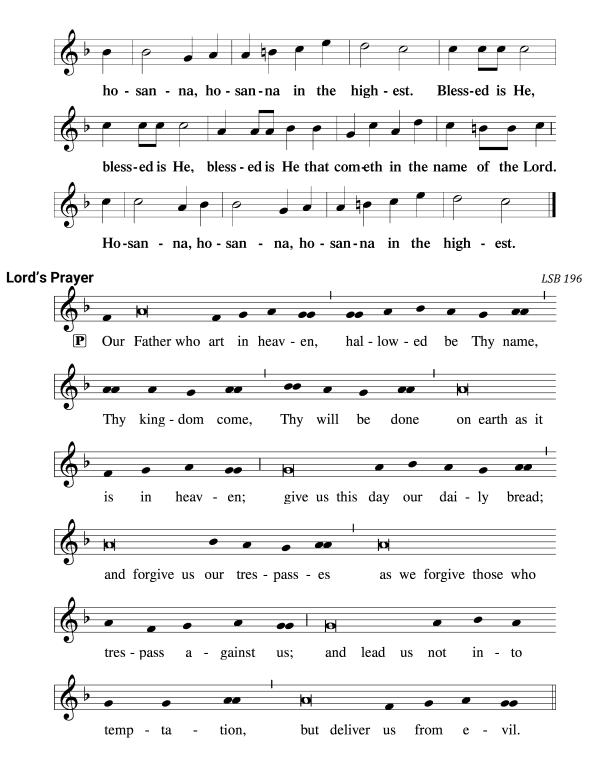


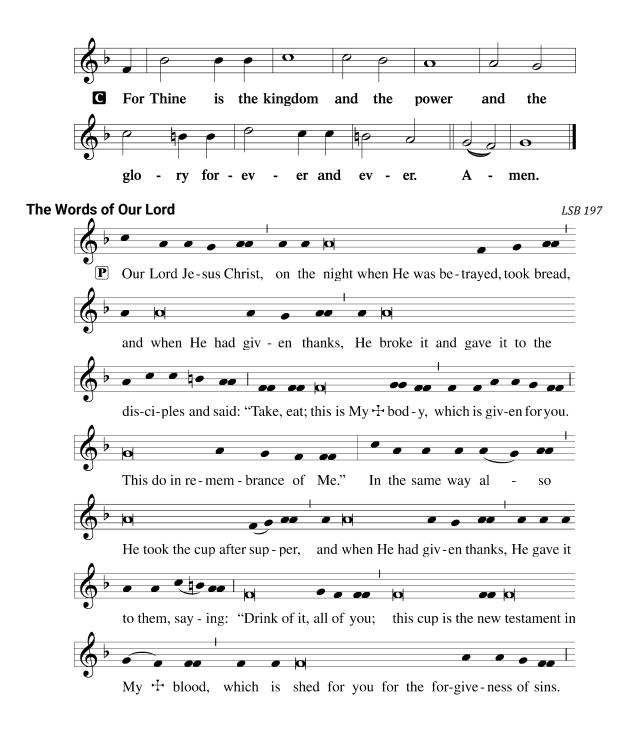
Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

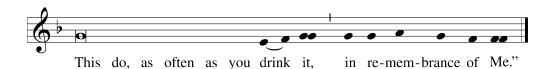
LSB 194

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:









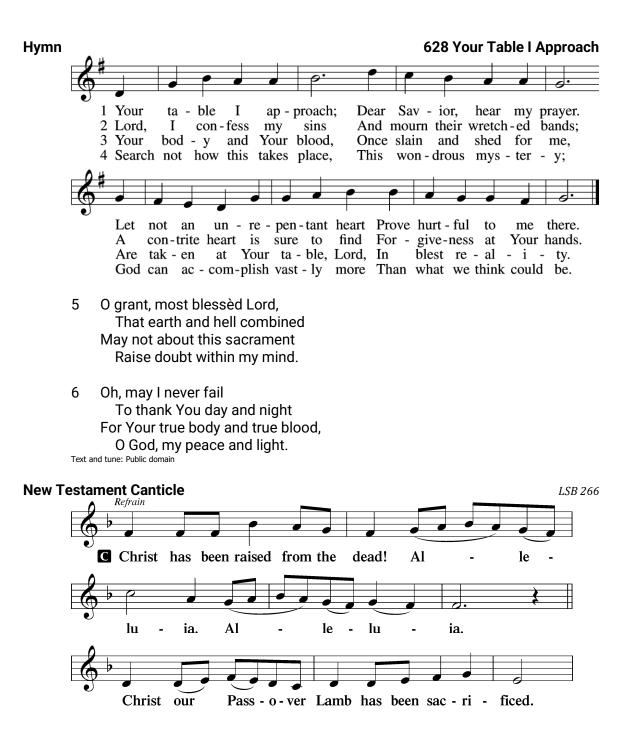


Sit



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Collect of the Day

Almighty God, Your mercies are new every morning and You graciously provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Collect for the Word

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Evening Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

Blessing

Benedicamus

LSB 267

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

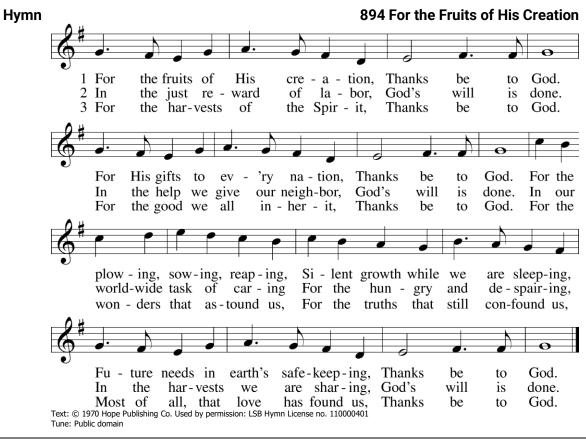
Benediction

LSB 267

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the → Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C Amen.





Now Thank We All Our God

Jacob B. Weber (b. 1988)

Acknowledgments

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<u>Schedule for Upcoming Midweek Advent Services</u> <u>Wednesday Vespers at 7pm</u> December 1st December 8th December 15th

<u>Synod Sentences for the Last Sunday of the Church Year</u> We Praise God for Sustaining Life in and through His Word

The nation resounds with thanksgiving for the earth's bountiful harvest, crops of wheat and grains, all beneath the canopy of God's almighty care. But "man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord" (Deut. 8:1–10). The Church is the vessel through which the Word of God penetrates the world with its Law and Gospel. It is this divine Word which proclaims Jesus as the sole source of life, health, and wholeness. It is Jesus who heals lepers with His Word, "Go show yourselves to the priests" (Luke 17:11–19). Of the ten cleansed, only one expresses thanksgiving back to Jesus. But true gratitude proceeds from a heart sustained by faith. Jesus bids this one Samaritan to "rise and go your way; your faith has made you well." So also, we are sent from the Divine Service, bolstered in our faith by Baptismal and Eucharist blessing to be thankful in our circumstances of plenty and hunger, abundance and need (Phil. 4:6–20).

A Prayer For Thanksgiving

Almighty God, most merciful Father, You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing: We give You most humble and hearty thanks that You have crowned the fields with Your blessing, and have permitted us once more to gather in the fruits of the earth; and we beseech You to bless and protect the living seed of Your Word sown in our hearts, that in the abundant fruits of righteousness we may always present to You an acceptable thank-offering; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

<u>A Snippet From 1517</u> <u>A Hebrew Twist on Thanksgiving</u>

Any day of thanksgiving is a confessional day—a day of expressing a short creed that sums up our entire existence: God gives, we receive. Thanksgiving as a day of confession becomes very obvious when we look at it from a Hebrew perspective.

The one statement you'll never hear from God in the Old Testament is "Thank you." He says, "let there be" and "bless you" and "I am who I am," but he will never express gratitude to someone for a gift bestowed.

The reason is obvious: no one ever gives God anything that he didn't already give them first. David expresses it quite succinctly: "All things come from You, and of Your own we have given You" (<u>1 Chron. 29:14</u>). The Orthodox liturgy, echoing David, puts it this way: "Thine of Thine own, we offer to Thee."

Like a toddler at the dinner table, trying to feed Dad with the very food that Dad has earned, purchased, prepared, and spooned onto his plate—so are we with God.

To say "Thank you" is, therefore, a distinctly human activity. Those two words summarize our position as receivers in the divine/human relationship. Indeed, even our language is a

gift from heaven. We couldn't even pronounce those two words "Thank you" unless the Logos, the Word himself, had placed them in our mouths.

Any day of thanksgiving is thus a confessional day—a day of expressing a short creed that sums up our entire existence: God gives, we receive.

Thanksgiving as a day of confession becomes very obvious when we look at it from a Hebrew perspective.

The Hebrew verb for giving thanks is *yadah* (גָרָה). Frequently, it also means to confess. And rightly so, because in the Old Testament, when Israel thanks God, often that thanksgiving consists of confessing, in detail, exactly what he's done—and continues to do—for his people.

The Hebrew twist on thanksgiving, therefore, is that it often sounds not so much like "thank you" as "Here is what kind of God you are for us."

For instance, <u>Psalm 136</u> is a thanksgiving hymn. It begins with the Hebrew verb yadah, "O give thanks unto Yahweh, for he is good, and his lovingkindness endures forever." Three more times in this psalm, the poet calls on us to "give thanks to God." But what's fascinating is that, between all of these calls for thanksgiving, verse by verse, we rehearse the work of God in creation and exodus.

To say that God "made the heavens with skill" (vs. 5) or "spread out the earth above the waters" (vs. 6) or "smote the Egyptians in their firstborn" (vs. 10) are all ways of saying Thank You. How so? Because each of these describe the God who acts on behalf of his people to give them gifts. Much like a creed rehearses who God is and what he does, so this thanksgiving psalm recounts what God did in creation and redemption as an epiphany of his love.

To thank God, Hebrew style, is to confess who he is. That confession alone is our way of describing the fact that he gives and we receive. He saves and we are saved. He loves and we are the beloved.

One final thought based on all this: Jesus truly is what (in Greek) we could call our Eucharist (which means "thanksgiving"). He is Thanksgiving for he embodies both divinity and humanity in one person. He is both God the Giver and Man the Receiver. We look at Jesus as the one from whom every good gift comes to us; the one who is the gift of the Father; and the priest who, representing us all, gives thanks to the Father for us and all creation. Indeed, so gracious is he that he even places his body and blood into us in the Eucharistic meal, thereby uniting us to God and filling us with his Spirit.

A blessed Thanksgiving Day to everyone, as we confess who God is, the gift we have in Jesus, and our ability to thank the Lord through his Spirit.

