

Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical
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Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor
David B. Richards, Parish Musician
Karen Rouleau, Administrative Assistant
Donna Tuider, Preschool Director



PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

During the Prayers of Thanksgiving, you are invited to add your own prayer(s) either in speech or in silence as indicated by the line: "Other prayers of thanksgiving may be added here." You may wish to use this insert to write down your prayer(s) of thanksgiving which you will offer aloud during that time. You may conclude your prayer with either the words, "Lord, in your mercy," or simply "Amen," so others will know when to begin their prayers.

A NATIONAL DAY OF THANKSGIVING

In the first year of the presidency of George Washington in 1789, a Day of National Thanksgiving was set aside for the last Thursday of November. Since that time, Americans have celebrated this day in remembrance of all the blessings which God has poured down upon this nation.

In the presidential proclamation for Thanksgiving Day in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln had this to say:

"It is the duty of nations as well as of citizens to owe their dependence upon the overruling power of God; to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon; and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord . . .

"We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; 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. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success 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.

"It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. 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, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens."

SERVICE OF THE WORD WITH PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING
ON A NATIONAL DAY OF THANKSGIVING
November 24th, 2011 ✚ 10:00 a.m.

At harvest time we join the psalmist in offering thanksgiving to God: "You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty." We are grateful for the abundance of the good things of God's creation. Paul reminds us that our thanksgiving overflows into generosity. As the body of Christ in the world, we give ourselves away as bread for the hungry.

**Please silence all cell phones and pagers
before the liturgy begins.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP

GATHERING

*=please stand as you are able

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to God's holy name.

Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as a heritage.

God visits the earth and waters it; God enriches it greatly and provides the people with grain.

The Lord crowns the year with bounty, the pastures of the wilderness overflow.

Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of God's praise be heard, who has kept us among the living.

We will give thanks to the Lord with our whole heart! God provides food for those who fear him; God is ever mindful of his covenant.

The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.
May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere the Lord. Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN

Sing to the Lord of Harvest

ELW 694



*DIALOGUE FOR THANKSGIVING

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,
for in your wisdom you have formed us.

You feed the hungry and clothe the naked.
We bless you and praise your name forever.

You set free those who are bound.
We bless you and praise your name forever.

You raise up those whose courage falters.
We bless you and praise your name forever.

You provide for our every need.
Accept our grateful praises.

You have called us from all peoples.
We rejoice and bless your name forever.

You bless your people with peace.
We bless you and praise your loving grace.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,
for in your wisdom you have formed us.

*CONFESSION OF FAITH

God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

*SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God our Father, 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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 8:7-18

Times of abundance tempt us to forget the Lord and rely on our own power and resources. But the Lord is the one who took Israel out of Egypt, led and fed them in the wilderness, brought them into the land, and gave them power to be productive. To thank this God is to remember and proclaim God's deeds.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Silence for meditation follows the reading.

HYMN

As Saints of Old

ELW 695



SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Christian fellowship involves sharing with those in need. Here Paul is gathering a collection for the church in Jerusalem from all the Gentile churches he helped found. We can be extravagant in our giving because God is extravagant, not stingy, in providing for our lives.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Silence for meditation follows the reading.

The congregation remains seated for the Gospel reading.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.

A Samaritan leper becomes a model for thanksgiving. He does not take for granted the kindness shown to him, but takes time to thank Jesus and glorify God.

The Gospel of our Lord
Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF THE DAY

O God beyond All Praising

ELW 880

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Hosanna

by Brooke Fraser

COLLECTION OF THE OFFERING

The monetary offering is designated to benefit the Chicago Food Depository.

*OFFERTORY HYMN

Now Thank We all Our God

ELW 840

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

O God, who desires good for all creatures, satisfy our hunger not just for food, but for freedom, truth, justice and love.

O Risen Christ, you revealed yourself to us as one who gives to the poor and cares for all people. We dedicate our lives and our offerings to your service.

O Holy Spirit, bless these gifts and abide in our hearts so that our gifts and our actions may live out our faith, glorify God, and bring forth a fruitful harvest for the kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

*PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

Clinging to the promise of abundant life and resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Giver and sustainer of life, your church sings your praise, our hearts filled with thanksgiving for your saving deeds. Make us ever thankful, gracious, and generous. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Generous God, you brought us into a good land. Make us faithful stewards of the marvelous gifts of your creation. We praise you for your bounty showered upon us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Pilgrim God, you journey with every nation and people. Guide us into ways of peace and justice, that all would have reason to give you thanks and praise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gracious Lord, you deliver us from every need and every peril by your mighty hand. Reach out and raise up those who suffer in any way (*especially*), that they would sing your praises. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all mercies, on this day of Thanksgiving we are overwhelmed by your generosity. Strengthen and encourage us that others would come to know you through our sharing of your abundance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other prayers of thanksgiving may be offered.

Loving Savior, the generations rise and fall before you. We praise you for the gift of our forebears, especially Justus Falckner, Jehu Jones, and William Passavant, pastors in North America, and Isaac Watts, hymnwriter. As you gather every generation to your breast, strengthen those who grieve with your promise of abundant life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive these our prayers, O God, and give us all we need for this day and the days to come, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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**



*CLOSING PRAYER OF BLESSING

Most gracious God, you crown the year with your goodness. We praise you that you have ever fulfilled your promise that, while earth remains, seedtime and harvest shall not cease. We bless you for the order and constancy of nature, for the beauty of earth and sky and sea, for the providence that year by year supplies our need. We thank you for your blessing on the work of those who plowed the soil and sowed the seed, and have now gathered in the fruits of the earth. And with our thanksgiving for these blessings, accept our praise, O God, for the eternal riches of your grace in Christ our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all glory and honor and worship, forever and ever.

Amen

*BENEDICTION

The Lord bless us and keep us.

The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us.

The Lord look upon us with favor ☩ and give us peace.

Amen

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SERVING IN THE LITURGY

LEADERS

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor
Tom Myers

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

LECTORS

Keith Altavilla and Katarina Šoltésová

GREETERS

Rose Tornil and Dan Tornil

USHER

Wally Kessler

Abraham Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation of 1863

It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God; to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon; and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord.

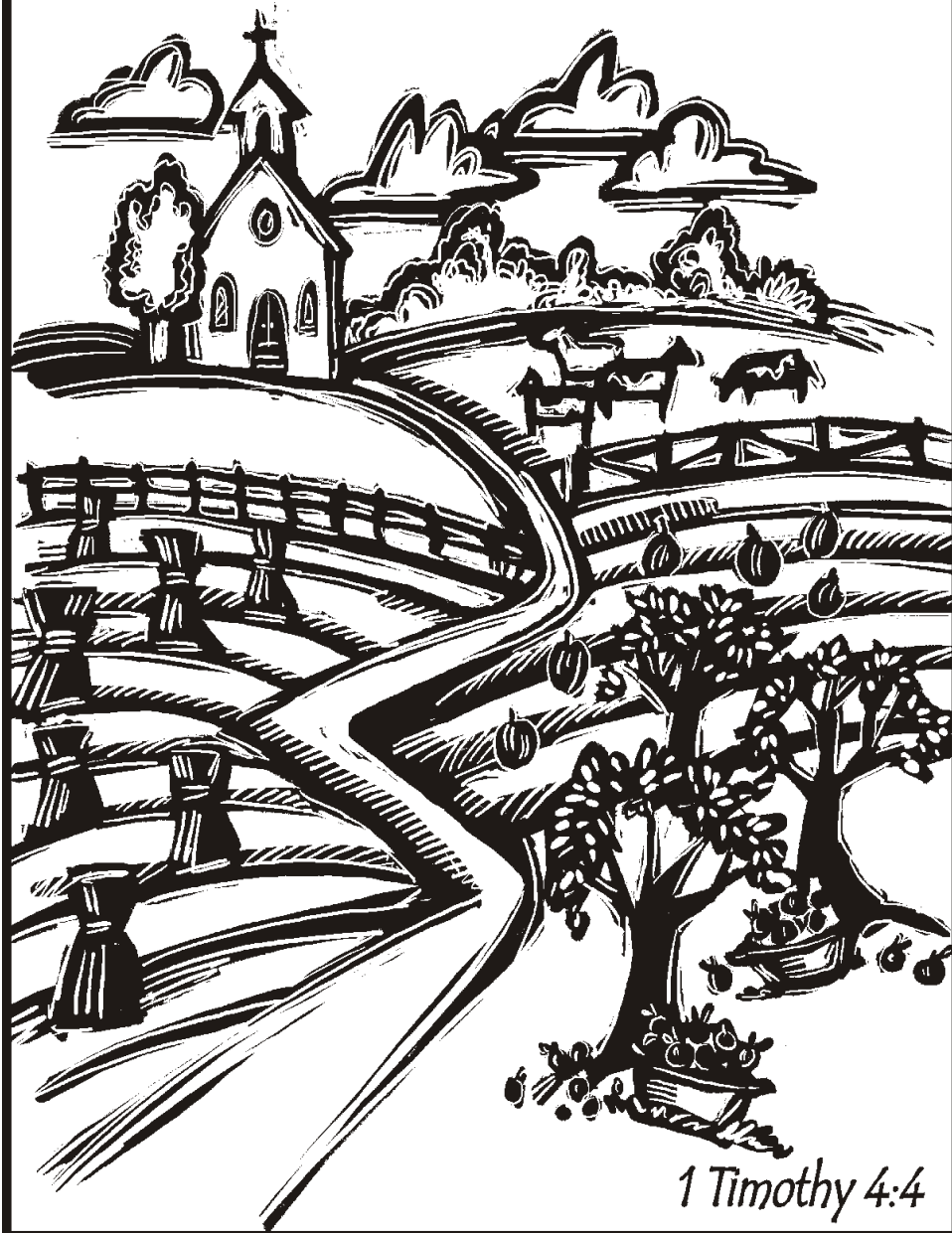
We know that by His divine law, nations, like individuals, are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world. May we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war which now desolates the land may be a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a people?

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; 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.

But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, 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.

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*For everything created by God is good, and
nothing is to be rejected,
provided it is received with thanksgiving ...*



1 Timothy 4:4