

# Thanksgiving Service

## Sunday, November 22, 2020

### Prelude

Cecil Armstrong Gibbs, "Folk-Song"

### Gathering Hymns – Medley (Sung by Musicians)

ELW 693 "Come You Thankful People, Come"

- 1 Come, ye thankful people, come;  
raise the song of harvest home.  
All be safely gathered in  
ere the winter storms begin.  
God, our maker, doth provide  
for our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple, come,  
raise the song of harvest home.
- 4 Even so, Lord, quickly come  
to thy final harvest home.  
Gather then thy people in,  
free from sorrow, free from sin,  
there, forever purified,  
in thy garner to abide.  
Come, with all thine angels, come,  
raise the glorious harvest home!

ELW 694 "Sing to the Lord of the Harvest"

- 1 Sing to the Lord of harvest  
your songs of love and praise;  
with joyful hearts and voices  
your alleluias raise;  
by him the rolling seasons  
in fruitful order move;  
sing to the Lord of harvest  
a joyous song of love.
- 3 Bring to this sacred altar  
the gifts his goodness gave,  
the golden sheaves of harvest,  
the souls Christ died to save.

Your hearts lay down before him  
when at his feet you fall,  
and with your lives adore him  
who gave his life for all.

## ELW 879 "For the Beauty of the Earth"

- 1 For the beauty of the earth,  
for the beauty of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies:

### *Refrain*

Christ, our God, to thee we raise  
this our sacrifice of praise.

- 5 For each perfect gift of thine,  
peace on earth and joy in heav'n;  
for thyself, best gift divine,  
to our world so freely giv'n: Refrain

## Greeting

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

## C: Amen

## Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we humbly thank you for your goodness to us and to all that you have made. We praise you for your creation, for keeping us and all things in your care, and for all the blessings of life. Above all we bless you for your immeasurable love in redeeming the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies that with thankful hearts we praise you, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving ourselves to your service and by living in your gifts of holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all worship and praise, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## First Reading: Psalm 104

<sup>1</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul.  
O LORD my God, you are very great.  
You are clothed with honor and majesty,  
<sup>2</sup>wrapped in light as with a garment.  
You stretch out the heavens like a tent,  
<sup>3</sup>you set the beams of your chambers on the waters,  
you make the clouds your chariot,  
you ride on the wings of the wind,  
<sup>4</sup>you make the winds your messengers,  
fire and flame your ministers.  
<sup>5</sup>You set the earth on its foundations,  
so that it shall never be shaken.  
<sup>6</sup>You cover it with the deep as with a garment;  
the waters stood above the mountains....

<sup>10</sup>You make springs gush forth in the valleys;  
they flow between the hills,  
<sup>11</sup>giving drink to every wild animal;  
the wild asses quench their thirst.  
<sup>12</sup>By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation;  
they sing among the branches.  
<sup>13</sup>From your lofty abode you water the mountains;  
the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.  
<sup>14</sup>You cause the grass to grow for the cattle,  
and plants for people to use,  
to bring forth food from the earth,  
<sup>15</sup>and wine to gladden the human heart,  
oil to make the face shine,  
and bread to strengthen the human heart....

<sup>27</sup>These all look to you  
to give them their food in due season;  
<sup>28</sup>when you give to them, they gather it up;  
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.  
<sup>29</sup>When you hide your face, they are dismayed;  
when you take away their breath, they die  
and return to their dust.  
<sup>30</sup>When you send forth your spirit, they are created;  
and you renew the face of the ground.  
<sup>31</sup>May the glory of the LORD endure forever;  
may the LORD rejoice in his works —  
<sup>32</sup>who looks on the earth and it trembles,  
who touches the mountains and they smoke.

<sup>33</sup>I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;  
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

<sup>34</sup>May my meditation be pleasing to him,  
for I rejoice in the LORD.....

Bless the LORD, O my soul.

Praise the LORD!

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

**Psalm: Taizé, "Ubi Caritas et Amor"**

### **Second Reading: Romans 8:31-35, 37-39**

<sup>31</sup>What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

### **Gospel Acclamation: ELW 881 "Let All Things Now Living"**

1 Let all things now living  
a song of thanksgiving  
to God the creator triumphantly raise,  
who fashioned and made us,  
protected and stayed us,  
who still guides us on to the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us,  
God's light goes before us,  
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
till shadows have vanished  
and darkness is banished,  
as forward we travel from light into light.

## Gospel: Matthew 6: 25-33

C: Glory to you, O Lord

<sup>25</sup>"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup>Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? <sup>27</sup>And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? <sup>28</sup>And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup>yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. <sup>30</sup>But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you – you of little faith? <sup>31</sup>Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' <sup>32</sup>For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. <sup>33</sup>But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

### Sermon

#### Hymn of the Day ELW 777 "Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty"

1 "Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty;  
drink the water I will give.  
If you knew what gift I offer,  
you would come to me and live."

#### *Refrain*

Jesus, ever flowing fountain,  
give us water from your well.  
In the gracious gift you offer  
there is joy no tongue can tell.

2 "Come to me, all trav'lers weary;  
come that I may give you rest.  
Drink the cup of life I offer;  
at this table be my guest." *Refrain*

3 "Come to me, believers burdened;  
find refreshment in this place.  
Come, receive the gift I offer,  
turn to me and seek my face." *Refrain*

- 5 "Come to me, distressed and needy;  
I would be your trusted friend.  
Come and seek the gift I offer,  
come, your open hands extend." *Refrain*

## **Apostle's Creed**

**C: 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 into hell.  
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.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

**A: With the people of God throughout the world, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.**

**A: God of grace and glory, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. We offer our thanks for the blessing of the gifts we receive from your bountiful goodness. Lord, in your mercy,**

**C: Hear our prayer.**

**A: 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,**

**C: Hear our prayer.**

A: 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, peace and the benefit of all people. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

A: You count all humankind worthy of care. We give you thanks for those who work in medical professions, that through their skills you provide healing, consolation, and well-being. We pray for a speedy end to the COVID pandemic we face and for the recovery of all who suffer. Today we pray especially for Nancy, Carol, Dennis, the family of Rob, Pastor Steve Swanson, Renee, Vicki, Rhea, Father Jim... (pause for names). Lord, in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

A: 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,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

P: 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

C: **Amen.**

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

C: **Our Father in heaven,**

hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.

**Give us today 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.**

**Anthem (sung by Musicians)**

“A Thanksgiving Carol”, arr. by W. Lawrence Curry

**Closing Hymn**    Sung by Musicians  
ELW 840 “Now Thank We All Our God”

- 1 Now thank we all our God  
with hearts and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done,  
in whom this world rejoices;  
who, from our mothers' arms,  
has blest us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.
  
- 2 Oh, may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us,  
and keep us all in grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all harm  
in this world and the next.
  
- 3 All praise and thanks to God  
the Father now be given,  
the Son, and Spirit blest,  
who reign in highest heaven,  
the one eternal God,  
whom earth and heav'n adore;  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

**Benediction and Dismissal**

P: Go forth in the power of the Holy Spirit!  
Proclaim the gospel throughout the earth!  
Serve the Lord with gladness,  
with deeds of justice and mercy! **C: Amen.**

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

J.S. Bach, “Little Prelude and Fugue in G Major”

## Announcements

- Concordia Ministries invites you to participate in our “Thanks + Giving 2020” campaign during the month of November. Tell us what you are grateful for and support those facing food insecurity this season. Access our ‘Thankful Thoughts’ form via the QR code or our webpage [www.concordiafaith.org/thanksgiving](http://www.concordiafaith.org/thanksgiving). Your ‘thankful thought’ response(s) will be recorded on a leaf and added to our Concordia Community “Full of Thanks” tree.

Additionally, this Thanksgiving season, we invite everyone who is able to give a gift to Concordia’s campaign to support those in our communities that are experiencing food insecurity. 100% of proceeds donated are going to support the Lakeview Pantry - providing food, mental health and social services to our Chicago communities. Learn more about the Lakeview Pantry at [www.lakeviewpantry.org](http://www.lakeviewpantry.org). You can give in several ways: (1) Send your check to Concordia Church - be sure to add “Thanks + Giving 2020” in the memo line, (2) Text "Concordia" to 73256 to complete your gift using your mobile device or (3) access our giving platform on your laptop via our webpage [www.concordiafaith.org/thanksgiving](http://www.concordiafaith.org/thanksgiving). *Be sure to choose the 'Thanks + Giving' Fund.*

Questions? Connect with Jen Phillips, Director of Mission Development at Concordia Church at [jphillips@concordiafaith.org](mailto:jphillips@concordiafaith.org) or via phone 773-463-1600 x 402.

- We want our children to be able to participate in Sunday worship and learn about God’s love for them, even while we cannot hold classes or activities here at church. Concordia Church is mailing (monthly) resources to families that include a weekly bulletin with fun activities/lessons that corresponds to that week’s readings and a coloring page for each child in the home. If you would like to receive these monthly mailings of children’s faith resources, or if you have any questions, please connect with Jen Phillips at [jphillips@concordiafaith.org](mailto:jphillips@concordiafaith.org) or call her at 773-463-1600 x 402. We also enjoy hearing from you – we invite you to connect and share how things are going for you and let us know how we can support your child’s growth in faith at home.
- We appreciate your continued gifts to Concordia Church! Remember, you may give in three ways:
  1. Text-to-give: Text “Concordia” to 73256 and follow the link you receive
  2. Give online at [onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give](http://onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give)
  3. Send a check via mail to the church