

Give *thanks*
in all circumstances;
for this is the
will of God
in Christ Jesus
for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:18

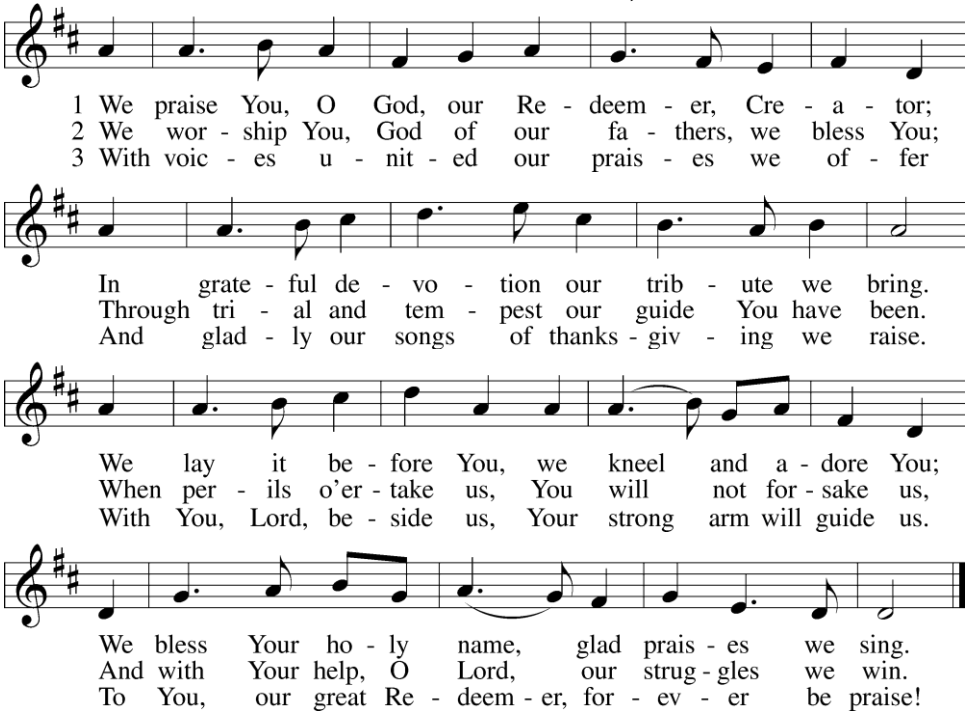
THANKSGIVING EVE
November 25, 2026
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Schleswig, Iowa

AS WE GATHER: Gratitude does not depend on what is given or what is received. Gratitude is an attitude of the heart. Our nation has been richly blessed by God. Each of us has received new mercies every morning. The key to contentment and peace is neither the abundance of gifts nor an absence, but a heart that is focused on our faithful and merciful Lord—the Great Giver of all that we need for our lives. A faithful and grateful heart returns thanks to the Source of all our gifts. We are blessed, and this evening we take a special time to give thanks.

THE EUCHARIST *is one of the names for the **Lord's Supper,** and it means "Thanksgiving". There is every reason to lift up our hearts in thanksgiving as the exalted Lord comes to us with His body and blood for our forgiveness! Jesus also gives us reason to live by every word that God speaks. Because the Bible bears witness to unity in faith (doctrine) by those communing together, we ask **guests** desiring to commune to speak with the pastor before the service.*

THE WELCOME

THE OPENING HYMN #785 *"We Praise You, O God"*



(please stand)

THE INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Before we enter into God's presence to give thanks to Him for all His blessings, we confess our sins and our unworthiness. Clothed with the gift of His forgiveness we may stand before Him to worship, adore, and give thanks to Him whose grace is lavish and abundant.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word, private confession and self-examination.)

P: Forgive us, Lord,

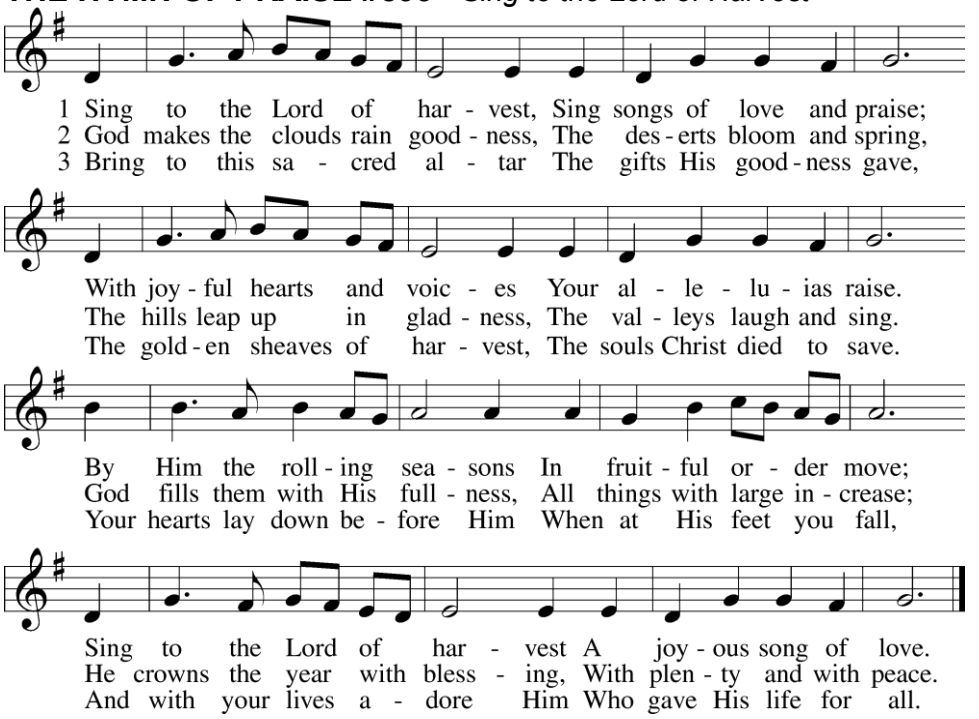
C: for we have taken Your gifts without being grateful, abused Your gifts and Your creation, and rebelled against Your ownership of all we so quickly call our own. Forgive us of all our sin against You and against one another. Restore us by Your grace and lead us to know and do Your will; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

(please be seated)

THE HYMN OF PRAISE #893 *"Sing to the Lord of Harvest"*



THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, whose mercies are new every morning and whose goodness, though undeserved, still abundantly provides for all our wants of body and soul, grant us, we humbly pray, Your Holy Spirit that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness toward us, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Deuteronomy 8:1-10 (ESV)

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. 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. 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. Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the Lord your God disciplines you. So you shall keep the commandments of the Lord your God by walking in His ways and by fearing Him. 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, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, 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. And 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!

THE EPISTLE Philippians 4:6-20 (ESV)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 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. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. 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. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. 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. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me. Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. 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. Even in

Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. 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. And my God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God!

(please stand)

THE VERSE *(sung)*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 17:11-19 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.
C: *(spoken)* **Glory to You, O Lord.**

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

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: *(spoken)* **Praise to You, O Christ.**

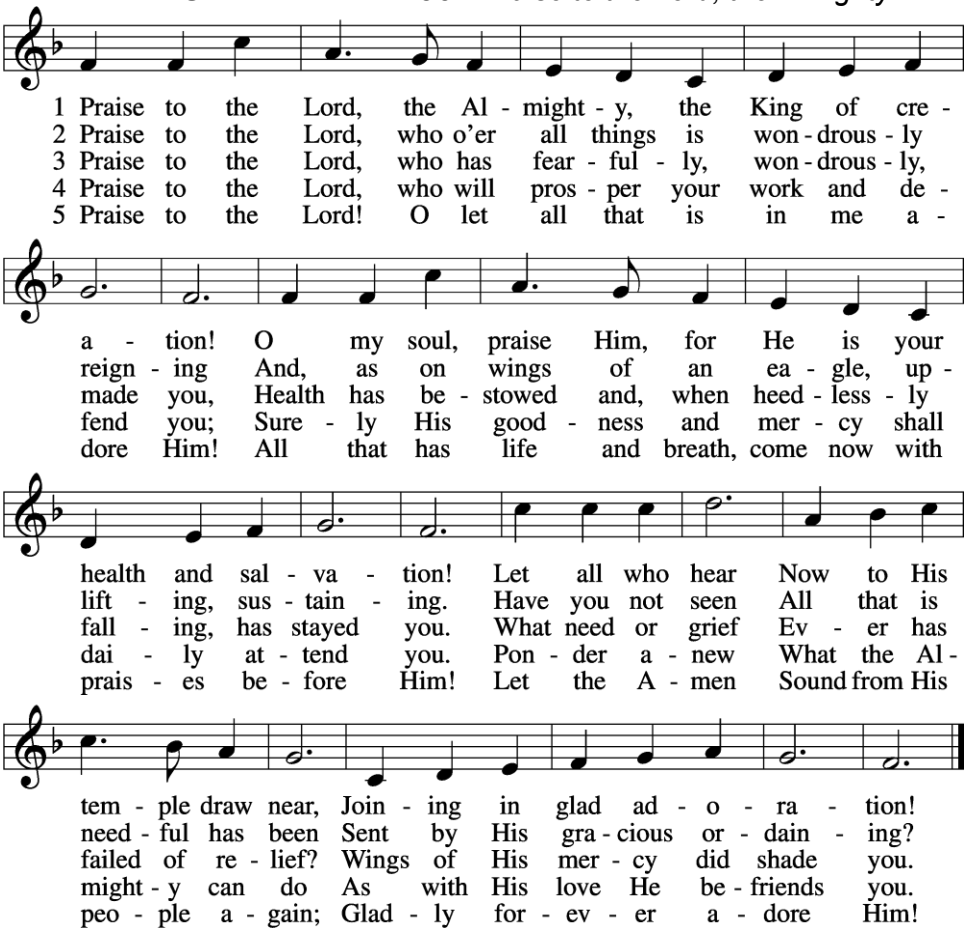
THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The First Article and the Explanation as presented by Martin Luther in the Small Catechism.

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
P: 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, spouse 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.

(please be seated)

THE HYMN OF THE DAY #790 *"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"*



THE SERMON *"God the Giver, Faith, and Thanksgiving"*

Psalm 65:11-13, "You crown the year with Your bounty; Your wagon tracks overflow with abundance. The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy."

Habakkuk 3:17-18, "Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation."

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS

(Our offerings from this service will be used in our *Home Mission Fund*.)

THE HYMN #806 *"Give Thanks"*

Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son. *(Repeat)*

And now let the weak say "I am strong," Let the poor say "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us. *(Repeat)*

Give thanks, give thanks.

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(please stand)

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: O God, You sustain all living things. Guard Your Church that she may not grow weary but with steadfast hope remain faithful to the coming of Your Son, who will lead her into the good land of Your heavenly kingdom. We give You thanks, O Lord,

C: and bless Your holy name.

P: O God, You open our hearts by Your Spirit that we may believe. Bring the knowledge of the truth to all the people of the world, that those who live in darkness and even the enemies of the cross of Christ may be rescued from despair and wickedness to know Your grace. We give You thanks, O Lord,

C: and bless Your holy name.

P: O God, giver of all good gifts, You have visited our nation with an abundance of land, resources, and wealth. Continue to satisfy us with the plentiful bounty of Your harvest and make us wise stewards and managers of such rich gifts. We give You thanks, O Lord,

C: and bless Your holy name.

P: O God, You give us the privilege of labor that we may serve You in the care and use of all Your gifts. Strengthen all those who labor that their efforts may flourish and all people may benefit from their work. We give You thanks, O Lord,

C: and bless Your holy name.

P: O God, amid the wilderness of a world that lies in darkness, help us to be lights to shine with the brightness of Your light. Lead us to the path of virtue and righteousness and give us the will to follow Your leading amid such great temptation. We give You thanks, O Lord,

C: and bless Your holy name.

P: O God, You gave to ten lepers healing for their bodies, and one received healing for his soul. We pray that You bring healing and grace to all the sick and suffering, especially those we remember before you silently in our hearts . . . . Grant hope and strength, relief, and peace in You. We give You thanks, O Lord,

C: and bless Your holy name.

P: O God, You hear and answer all prayer. Help us to trust in Your will and to receive with faith Your gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation which come to us here in this Holy Supper. Through these supplications we commend all things into Your hands and offer our thanksgiving to You, trusting that You will supply our every need through the riches of Your glory in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE PREFACE *(responses are sung) (page 160 in the hymnal)*

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
P: Almighty God, it is truly good, right, and salutary that we should offer You thanksgiving every day. You have blessed us in every way. You have given us this land, and every day You pour out blessing after blessing upon us. The greatest blessing You have given us is in the forgiveness of sins given to us through Jesus' death on the cross. With that forgiveness, You give us in this Sacrament all we need for life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach 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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: *(sung)* **Amen.**

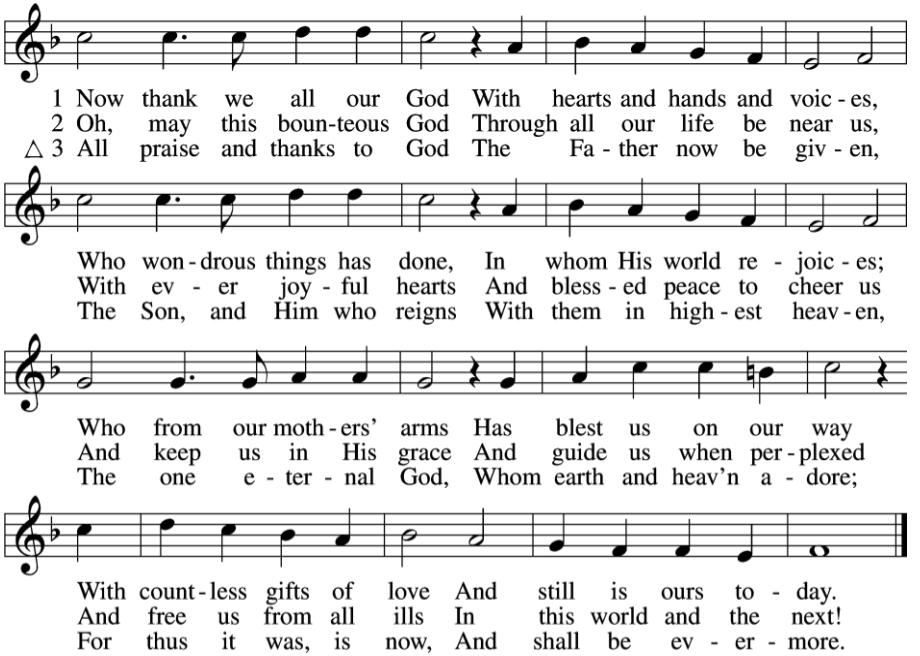
THE AGNUS DEI ~ LAMB OF GOD *(page 163 in the hymnal)*

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

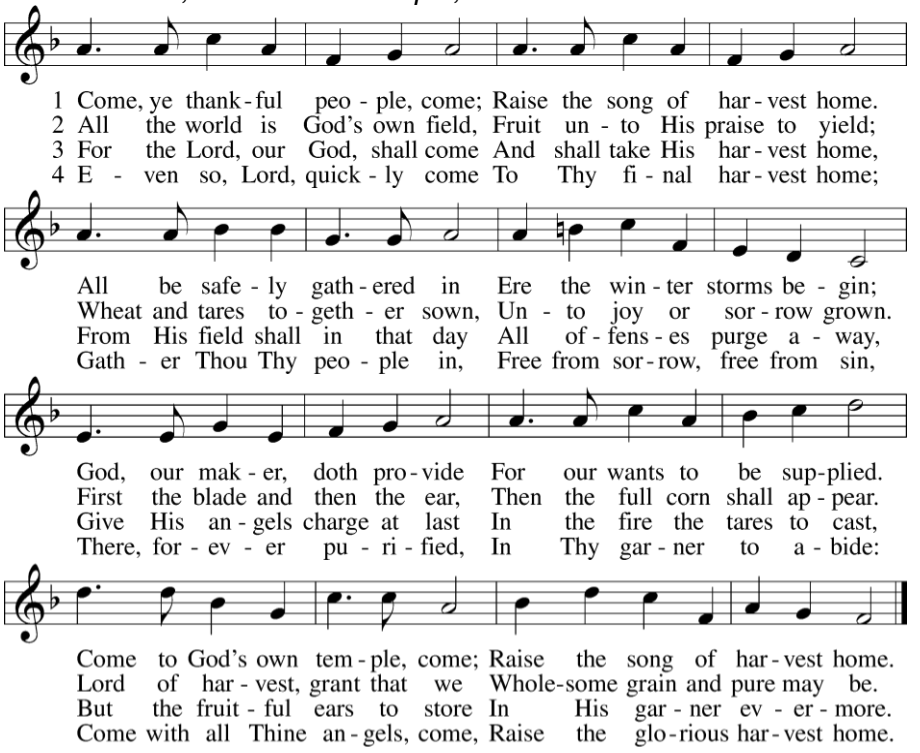
(please be seated and remain seated for the Trinitarian verses)

THE DISTRIBUTION AND HYMNS

#895 *"Now Thank We All Our God"*



#892 *"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"*



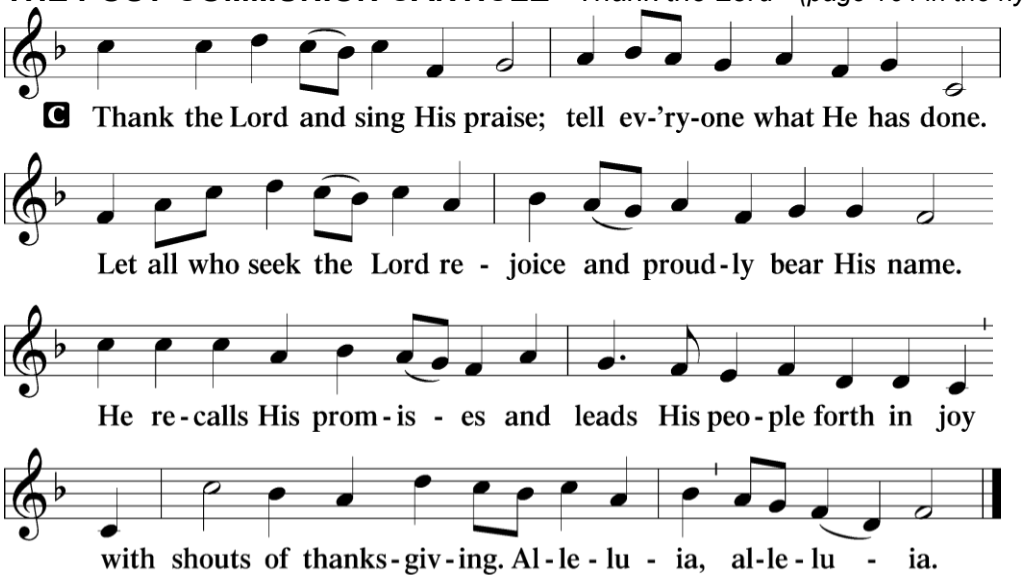
(please stand)

THE DISMISSAL

P: The body and blood of our Lord strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C: Amen.

THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *"Thank the Lord" (page 164 in the hymnal)*



THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. We give You thanks, merciful Father, for the goodness revealed throughout Your whole creation and for the grace revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior. You supply and sustain all living things, and You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Give us a bold and grateful faith that we may receive Your gifts with thanksgiving and use them faithfully. We pray especially that we may be made bold to share the good news of Jesus Christ that those around us may find new cause for joy and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

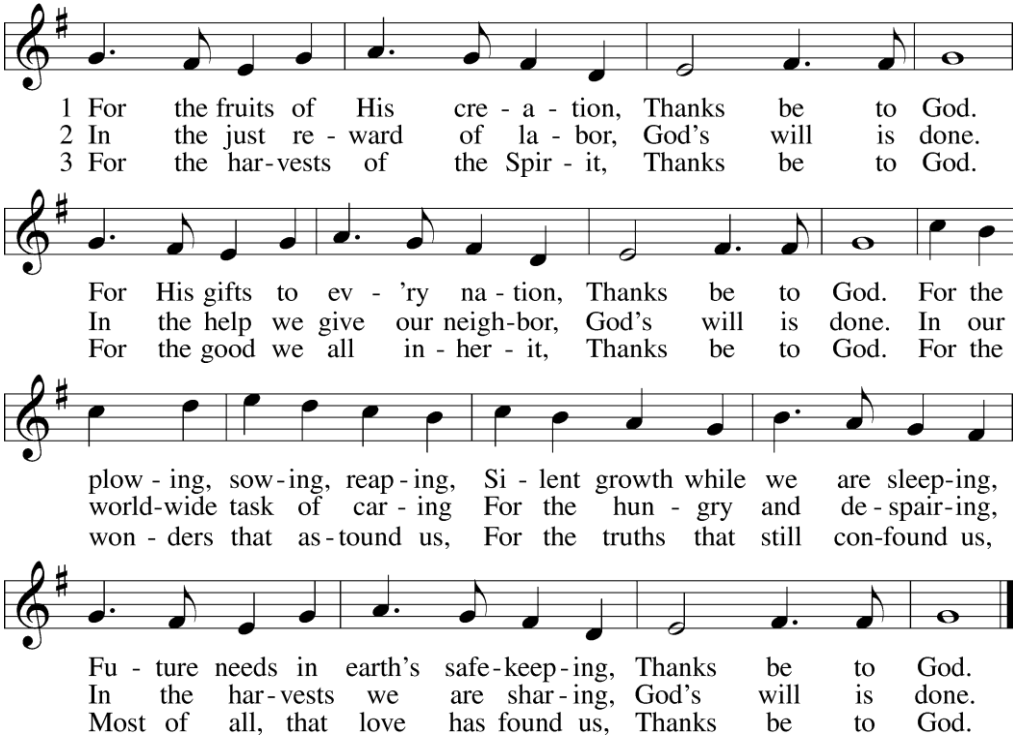
THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance on you and ✠ give you peace.

C: *(sung)* **Amen.**

(please be seated)

THE CLOSING HYMN #894 *"For the Fruits of His Creation"*



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Please greet one another as you leave.

May you have a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!

Happy Thanksgiving!