FAITH Lutheran Church

a beacon of God's love, expanding His Kingdom

Prayer, Praise and *Plenty of Pie* Service



Wednesday, November 25, 2026 at 5:00 PM

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AS WE GATHER

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. Yet the greatest blessings of God are not found in the abundance of our possessions, but in the riches of His mercy and grace. For "the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10).

The Church is the vessel through which the Word of God penetrates the world with its Law and Gospel. It is this divine Word that reveals our sin and proclaims Jesus as the sole source of life, salvation, and every blessing. It is Jesus who seeks out Zacchaeus, a man rich in earthly possessions but desperately in need of heavenly treasure.

True gratitude proceeds from a heart transformed and sustained by faith. Having received the gracious presence of his Savior, Zacchaeus responds with joy and generosity, declaring his willingness to share his possessions and make restitution for his wrongs. His giving does not purchase salvation; rather, it flows from the salvation Christ has freely brought to his house.

Whether in plenty or in need, we rejoice that Christ has sought us, found us, and made us His own, freeing us to share His gifts with cheerful and generous hearts. "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7)

WORSHIP WITH US THIS SEASON

Join us as we prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Immanuel, God with us, on Christmas Day. We invite you, and your family to worship with us throughout Advent and the Christmas Season.

Weekend Worship: Saturdays • 5:00 PM & Sundays • 9:30 AM
Advent Wednesdays Worship: 5:00 PM • Supper follows worship
Christmas Children's Service: Sunday • December 20 • 9:30 AM
Christmas Eve Worship: December 24 • 5:00 PM • Candlelight • Holy Communion
Christmas Day Worship: December 25 • 9:30 AM • Holy Communion

✞ WORSHIP SERVICE ✞

OPENING HYMN: *Now Thank We All Our God* *LSB 895*

INVOCATION:

P: *With grateful hearts filled with the mercy of the Father, the love of the Son, and the grace of the Holy Spirit, we bring forth our worship and praise to the one true God, ✞ Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*

C: Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

PSALM: *Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22*

P: *Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;*

C: his love endures forever.

P: *Let the redeemed of the LORD say this—*

C: those he redeemed from the hand of the foe, those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south.

P: *Some became fools through their rebellious ways and suffered affliction because of their iniquities.*

C: They loathed all food and drew near the gates of death.

P*: Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,*

C: and he saved them from their distress.

P: *He sent forth his word and healed them;*
C: he rescued them from the grave.

All: Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men. Let them sacrifice thank offerings and tell of his works with songs of joy.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *For The Fruits of His Creation (v.1, 3)* *LSB 894*

READING OF PRAISE: *1 Chronicles 16:7-14, 29-34*
P: *Then on that day David first appointed that thanksgiving be sung to the LORD by Asaph and his brothers.*
C: Oh, give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

P: *Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!*
C: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

P: *Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually!*
C: Remember the wondrous works that he has done, his miracles and the judgments he uttered,

All: O offspring of Israel his servant, children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

HYMN OF PRAISE: *Praise and Thanksgiving (v.1, 3)* *LSB 789*

P: *Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!*
C: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come before him!

P: *Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness;*
C: tremble before him, all the earth; yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved.

P: *Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice,*
C: and let them say among the nations, "The Lord reigns!"

P: *Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it!*
C: Then shall the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth.

All: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

HYMN OF PRAISE: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (vs 1,5)* *LSB 790*

READING OF PRAISE: *2 Corinthians 9:6-15*
P*: The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,*
C: and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

P: *Each one must give as he has decided in his heart,*
C: not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

P: *And God is able to make all grace abound to you,*
C: so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

P: *As it is written,*
C: "He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."

P*: He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food*
C: will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

All: You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *We Praise You, O God* *LSB 785*

P: *For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.*

C: By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others,

P: *while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you.*

All: Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

(Jesus gives His disciples a perfect prayer. In it, as we pray, we acknowledge that God is the giver of all good and perfect gifts. Martin Luther, in his explanation of the Fourth Petition of Jesus' prayer leads us to affirm this eternal truth. Today, we speak these words boldly, as another way to express our gratitude, give thanks to God, and to be reminded of His generosity.)

FOURTH PETITION OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: *Give us today 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.

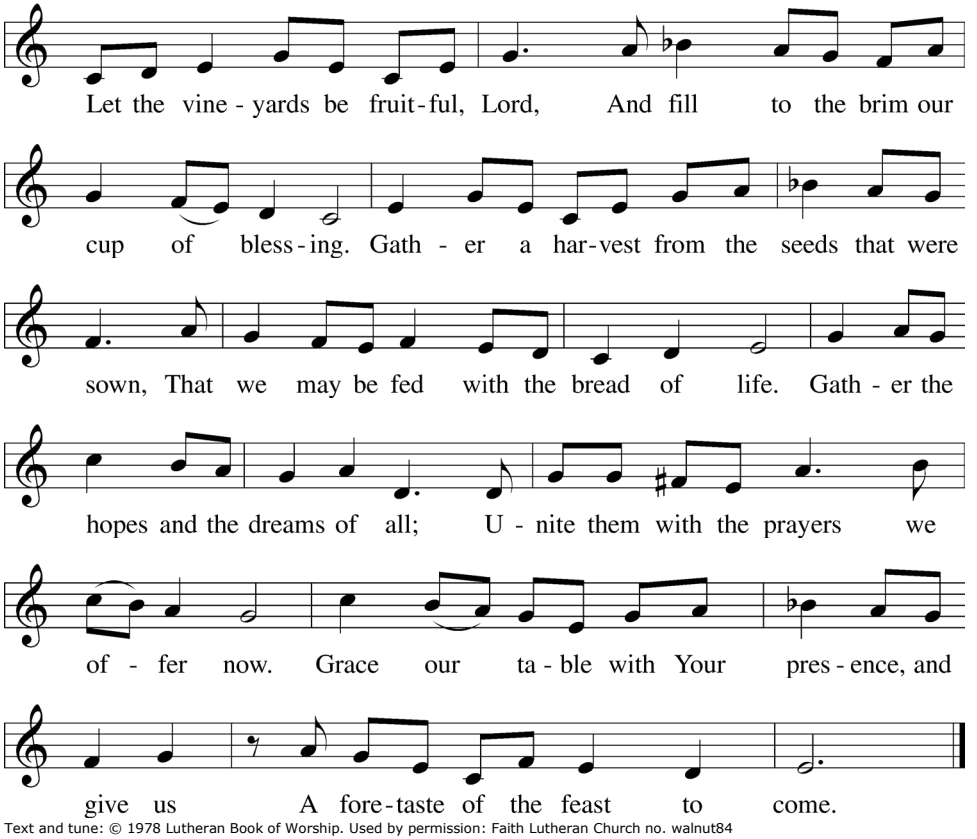
P: *What is meant by daily bread?*

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.

A NOTE OF THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful* *LSB 955*



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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.

All: Say also: "Save us, O God of our salvation, and gather and deliver us from among the nations, that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise. Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!" Then all the people said, "Amen!" and praised the Lord.

BLESSING:

P: *May God go before you to guide you.*
May God go behind you to protect you.
May God go beneath you to support you,
May God go beside you to befriend you,
And may His Holy Spirit burn ever more brightly inside you, encouraging you always to be grateful to the One who leads you to be a beacon of His love, expanding His Kingdom throughout all these days, and into eternity.

C: Amen! Amen!! Amen!!!

CLOSING HYMN: *Sent Forth by God's Blessing* *LSB 643*

I THANK MY GOD ALWAYS FOR EVERY GOOD AND PERFECT GIFT…

My family, Close friends, Good health, My home, My job, Healthy food, Food delivery services, Wi-Fi, Netflix, Holidays with family (or friends), A good meal, Fellowship, A comfy couch or chair, Thank you notes, My favorite Thanksgiving side dish, Freedom of religion, Campfires, Pain and the lessons learned from it, Rainbows, Challenges, Choices, Rain boots and puddles to jump in, the New Testament, The scale of the universe, Heartfelt apologies, Lights in the darkness, Long, late night conversations, Farmers markets, Blowing bubbles, Fresh, warm sheets on my bed, Sickness and the recovery from it, Duct tape, Good hair days, The smell of fresh mown grass, The five-second rule, Bacon, Uncontrollable laughter, Teachers who don't give homework on Thanksgiving break, God the Father, Cake, Road trips, Hot Showers, The smell of freshly baked cookies, My education, My pets, the Bible, Candles, A good night's sleep, The seasons, Financial savings, Weekends, Worship, Pie, Fresh air, Transportation, Jesus, Clean water, Technology, A good book, Art, Teachers, Modern healthcare, Music, Graduations, Colors, Surgery and its good results, Giving gifts, Receiving gifts, Indoor plumbing, My very own seat in church, Waking up seconds before

my alarm, Fuzzy socks, Deodorant, Salvation in Christ, The ability to Google any question, Toilet paper, Dog (cat) videos, Clothes fresh out of the dryer, GPS, Auto save, Spellcheck, Chapstick, Getting everyone to smile in the family photo at the same time, Working with my hands, Pie, My favorite hymns, Unconditional love, Good neighbors, Restoration of relationships, Seeing old friends, Old photographs, Grandparents, Sit-down dinners, A nice cup of hot chocolate, Coffee, the Old Testament, Fun family traditions, Mutual respect, Finally getting to wear my favorite sweater, Not being the turkey, Literacy, Time, Successfully making a new recipe, Forgiveness, Driving and getting nothing but green lights, Comfortable shoes, Checking something off my to-do list, Positive feedback, Naptime, Random bursts of inspiration, Seeing something from a new angle, the Grace, Love and Mercy of God, Bright Morning Sunrises, Peaceful Evening Sunsets.

WHAT WILL YOU ADD THIS WEEK? NEXT WEEK…?
ALL THE DAYS, WEEKS & MONTHS THAT FOLLOW…?

Watch for God's gifts and write them down as you see them.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

TO BE TAUGHT SIMPLY AT HOME BY THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY

The Introduction: *Our Father in heaven.* *What does this mean?*
With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

The First Petition: *Hallowed be Your name.* *What does this mean?*
God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.

How is God's name kept holy?
God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!

The Second Petition: *Your kingdom come.* *What does this mean?*
The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also.

How does God's kingdom come?
God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.

The Third Petition: *Your will be done on earth as in heaven.* *What does this mean?*
The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

How is God's will done?
God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom

come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.

The Fourth Petition: *Give us today our daily bread.* *What does this mean?*
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.

What is meant by daily bread?
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.

The Fifth Petition: *Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.*
What does this mean?
We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

The Sixth Petition: *Lead us not into temptation.* *What does this mean?*
God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.

The Seventh Petition: *But deliver us from evil.* *What does this mean?*
We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

The Conclusion: *For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.*
What does this mean?

This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means "yes, yes, it shall be so."

