



Thankful
for
GOD'S
Blessings



Serving the Portland Area with the Means of Grace and as a family of believers for over 110 years... as a church, school, preschool, mission, and ministry.

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Thanksgiving Eve - November 22, 2023

Welcome!

Grace ~ “I am not ashamed of the gospel. . .”



When it comes to the truth of Scripture, there is no room for compromise.

The Bible is the book we live by... for life now and for life forever. We accept the Bible as the pure Word of God. We believe that our only Savior is Jesus Christ, the sinless Son of God, who was crucified, died, and was buried but rose again to open the door to heaven for everyone who believes in him.

Grace ~ “These are written that you may believe. . .”



Grace Lutheran Church has served the Portland area for over 100 years by faithfully preaching and teaching the timeless truth of God’s Word. We believe that God uses the timeless message of Word and Sacraments to bring souls into his care. This is a message that we share here and around the world through our affiliation with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).

Grace ~ “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations. . .”



Grace Lutheran Church exists to win souls by joyfully proclaiming the truth of God’s grace through Christ, to nurture believers in growing in faith and lives of Christian service, and to join together in worship and praise. **“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever! Amen.” II Peter 3:18**

Thanksgiving Eve - November 22nd, 2023

CHOIR:

CW21 BLUE #599 COME, CHRISTIANS, JOIN TO SING

THANKSGIVING

(adapted from Psalms 95, 65, 92, 148)

M: Let us come before the LORD with Thanksgiving,

C: And extol Him with music and song!

M: For you make me glad by your deeds, O LORD; I sing for joy at the works of your hands.

C: How great are your works, O LORD, how profound your thoughts!

M: Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD from the heavens, praise him in the heights above.

C: Praise him, all his angels, praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

M: Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars.

C: Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies.

M: Praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted.

C: His splendor is above the earth and the heavens. Praise the LORD.

M: We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple.

C: You answer us with awesome deeds of righteousness, O God our Savior.

M: You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly.

C: The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, for you have ordained it.

M: You drench its furrows and level its ridges; you soften it with showers and bless its crops.

C: You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance.

M: The grasslands of the desert overflow; the hills are clothed with gladness.

C: The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are mantled with grain; they shout for joy and sing.

M: Praise the Lord all you people.

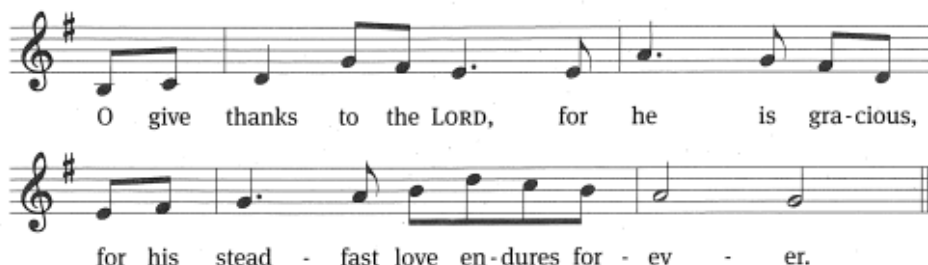
C: Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.

THE PSALM – Our, cantor, Jacob Meyer will sing the Psalm and the congregation will join in the “Glory be...” and the final refrain.

O Give Thanks to the LORD

107B

Refrain



Tone



Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their / story—
those he redeemed from the hand / of the foe,
those he gathered / from the lands,
from east and west, from / north and south.

Some wandered in desert wastelands, hungry and / thirsty;
some sat in utter darkness, prisoners suffering in / iron chains.
Some became fools through their re-/bellious ways
and suffered affliction because of their in-/iquities.

Then they cried to the LORD in their / trouble,
and he saved them from / their distress.
He sent out his word and / healed them;
he rescued them / from the grave. *Refrain*

Let them give thanks to the LORD for his un-/failing love
and his wonderful deeds / for mankind.
Let them sacrifice thank / offerings
and tell of his works with / songs of joy.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be-/ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

CONFESSION

- M: All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,
- C: **So that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16,17)**
- M: Yet so often we have despised God's Word and failed to gladly hear and learn it. For this and all our sins, we bow before God and humbly ask his forgiveness.
- C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

ABSOLUTION

- M: God gave his Word so *"that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name"* (John 20:31). The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**

HYMN:

CW21 BLUE #617 PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

***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!***

THE GIFTS GOD GIVES

THE LESSON:

JAMES 1:17

¹⁷ Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. ¹⁸ He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

Devotion

*Gracious God, You send great blessings
New each morning all our days.
For Your mercies never ending,
For Your love we offer praise.*

*Lord, we pray that we, Your people
Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,
Through the sharing of Your blessings
May bring glory to Your name.*

*By Your Word you formed creation
Filled with creatures large and small;
As we tend that endless measure
May our care encircle all.*

*Lord, we pray that we, Your people
Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,
Through the sharing of Your blessings
May bring glory to Your name.*

*In His earthly life, our Savior
Knew the care of faithful friends;
May our deeds of dedication
Offer love that never ends.*

*Lord, we pray that we, Your people
Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,
Through the sharing of Your blessings
May bring glory to Your name.*

*Heav'nly Father, may our caring
Bear the imprint of Your grace,
With the Son and Holy Spirit,
Praise be Yours in ev'ry place!*

*Lord, we pray that we, Your people
Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,
Through the sharing of Your blessings
May bring glory to Your name.*

THE LESSON – GOD’S GIFT OF TIME:

PSALM 90:1-6, 10, 14

¹ Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. ² Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. ³ You turn people back to dust, saying, “Return to dust, you mortals.” ⁴ A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by or like a watch in the night. ⁵ Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death they are like the new grass of the morning: ⁶ In the morning it springs up new, but by evening it is dry and withered.

¹⁰ Our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures; yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.

¹⁴ Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.

Devotion

HYMN:

CW21 BLUE #696 (1,6) TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE

*Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.*

*Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in endless praise,
let them flow in endless praise.*

*Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store.*

*Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.*

THE LESSON – GOD’S GIFT OF TREASURE:

LUKE 12:31-21

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

¹⁴ Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” ¹⁵ Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

¹⁶ And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’”

¹⁸ “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹ And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’

²⁰ “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

²¹ “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

Devotion

HYMN:

CW21 BLUE #609 (1,3) WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD, OUR REDEEMER

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator!

In grateful devotion our tribute we bring:

We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;

We bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.

With voices united our praises we offer;

And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise!

With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us;

To you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

THE LESSON – GOD’S GIFT OF TALENTS:

MATTHEW 25:14-30

¹⁴ “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

¹⁹ “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’

²¹ “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²² “The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’

²³ “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²⁴ “Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’

²⁶ “His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷ Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

²⁸ ““So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹ For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. ³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

Devotion

HYMN:

CW21 BLUE #751 (1-2) O GOD, YOUR HAND THE HEAVENS MADE

*O God, your hand the heavens made
And all that they contain;
The world appeared at your command,
And in it now you reign.
The restless sea, the land, the sky
Your handiwork declare;
The touch of your creative pow'r
Is present ev'rywhere.*

*To us are given gifts divine;
All talents you have sent.
Inspire us now to use them well
Your kingdom to extend.
We hold each gift a trust from you
Nor claim it as our own;
We gratefully acknowledge, Lord,
All things are yours alone.*

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you^[a] free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh,^[b] God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering.^[c] And so he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

⁵ Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. ⁶ The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so. ⁸ Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life^[d] because of righteousness. ¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of^[e] his Spirit who lives in you.

Devotion

HYMN:

CW21 BLUE #491 (1,4) COME, YOU THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME

Come, you thankful people, come; Raise the song of harvest-home.

All be safely gathered in - Ere the winter storms begin.

God our maker shall provide, For our wants to be supplied.

Come to God's own temple, come; Raise the song of harvest-home.

Even so, Lord, quickly come, To your final harvest-home;

Gather all your people in, Free from sorrow, free from sin,

There, forever purified, In your garner to abide.

Come with all your angels, come; Raise the glorious harvest-home.

OUR THANKSGIVING

THE OFFERING

THE PRAYER FOR THANKSGIVING EVE

THE BENEDICTION



THE CLOSING HYMN:

CW RED -#610 NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD
CW Red included the descant

*Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom his world rejoices,
Who from our mother's arms
Has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.*

*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 in his grace
And guide us when perplexed
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next.*

*All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and him who reigns
With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heav'n adore!
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.*



I am thankful

As you color this sheet,
think about what you're
thankful for. Pick three things
and write or draw them in
the squares below.

