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## Thanksgiving Worship

**HYMN:** 613 “Come, You Thankful People, Come”

**INVOCATION:**

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**THANKSGIVING SENTENCES:**

*Responses are from Martin Luther’s explanation of the 4th petition of the Lord’s Prayer, as well as part of the Common Table Prayer (Ps. 107:1).*

M: Give us this day our daily bread.

**C: God surely gives daily bread without our asking, even to all the wicked.**

M: Give us this day our daily bread.

**C: We pray in this petition that he would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.**

M: Give us this day our daily bread.

**C: O, give thanks to the Lord for he is good, and his loving kindness endures forever. Amen.**

**CONFESSION OF SINS:**

*Based on Psalms 130 & 38.*

M: Even on days of thanksgiving, even especially on a day of thanksgiving, we realize how unworthy we are of all of God’s gifts, blessings and grace. We come to him in the words of the psalms to confess our sins.

**C: Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord; Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy. If you, Lord, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you. Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger or discipline me in your wrath. My guilt has overwhelmed me, like a burden too heavy to bear. I confess my iniquity; I am troubled by my sin. Lord, do not forsake me; do not be far from me, my God. Come quickly to help me, my Lord and my Savior.**

**ABSOLUTION:***Based on Psalm 103.*

M: Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

**C: Amen.****THANKSGIVING PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

M: 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.

**C: Amen.****SCRIPTURE LESSONS:***Hymn 611, v1 "For the Fruit of His Creation"***For the fruit of his creation, Thanks be to God.****For his gifts to ev'ry nation, Thanks be to God.****For the plowing, sowing, reaping, Silent growth while we are sleeping, Future needs in earth's safe keeping, Thanks be to God.****Old Testament Lesson:** (Genesis 8:18-22)

<sup>18</sup>Noah went out with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives along with him. <sup>19</sup>Every animal, every creeping thing, every bird, and whatever swarms on the earth went out of the ship, species by species.

<sup>20</sup>Noah built an altar to the LORD and took from every clean animal and every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar. <sup>21</sup>The LORD smelled the pleasant aroma. The LORD said in his heart, "I will never again curse the soil anymore because of man, for the thoughts he forms in his heart are evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike every living thing, as I have done. <sup>22</sup>While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."

M: We praise you, O God, for your ability to create things beneficial and beautiful by which you satisfy and help us in our lives.

**C: We praise and thank you for the discoveries of medical and scientific technology to preserve us, and for the skills and determination of agriculture to supply us with an abundance and variety of food.**

M: We praise you, O God, for your wonderful works: making us and keeping us alive, sending your Son to redeem and save us, and bringing us to and keeping us in the one true faith by the work of the Holy Spirit.

**C: We praise and thank you for the gift of speech and writing, by which we share our thoughts and needs with you and with one another. We thank you for the gift of music which brings joy and comfort to our lives.**

*Hymn 610, v3*

**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 heaven adore!  
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

M: We glorify and thank you, O God, for all the blessings you ever have, are now, and ever will give to us undeserving sinners. We do this in Jesus' name, in whom we also pray and say,

**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.****BLESSING:**

M: The gratifying grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the lavish love of God the Father, and the faith-filling fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: Amen.****HYMN:** 614 "Sing to the Lord of Harvest"

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**And I believe that God still preserves me by richly and daily providing me with everything that I need for my bodily welfare, such as food and drink, clothing and shoes, house and home, land and cattle, money and goods, a godly spouse, godly children, godly workers, godly and faithful leaders, good government, good weather, peace and order, health, a good name, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like. I believe that He also preserves me by defending me against all danger, and by guarding and protecting me from all evil.**

**All this God does only because He is my good and merciful Father in heaven, and not because I have earned or deserved it. For all this I ought to thank and praise, to serve and obey Him.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

**OFFERING & HYMN: 609 “We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer”**

**THANKSGIVING LITANY:**

***Hymn 610, v1 (Now Thank We All Our God)***

**Now thank we all our God with heart 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.**

M: Let us praise God for the great and abundant blessings which he showers on us every day.

**C: Lord God, we praise and thank you for the wonderful way you have made us, and for all the gifts of body and soul you have given us.**

M: We praise you, O God, for the countless arts and skills which you have given us to serve us in our needs and pleasures.

**C: We praise and thank you that you have given us the power to invent and to learn, as well as the ability to put these gifts to use for ourselves and for all people.**

***Hymn 610, v2***

**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.**

***Hymn 611, v2***

**In the just reward of labor, God’s will be done.  
In the help we give our neighbor, God’s will be done.  
In our worldwide task of caring For the hungry and despairing,  
In the harvests we are sharing, God’s will be done.**

**Epistle Lesson: (James 1:16-18)**

<sup>16</sup>Do not be deceived, my dear brothers. <sup>17</sup>Every good act of giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the lights, who does not change or shift like a shadow. <sup>18</sup>Just as he planned, he gave us birth by the word of truth so that we would be a kind of firstfruits of his creations.

***Hymn 611, v3***

**For the harvests of the Spirit, Thanks be to God.  
For the good we all inherit, Thanks be to God.  
For the wonders that astound us, For the truths that still confound us,  
Most of all that Love has found us, Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel: Luke 19:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. <sup>2</sup>A man named Zacchaeus was there. He was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. <sup>3</sup>He was trying to see who Jesus was, but since he was short, he could not see because of the crowd. <sup>4</sup>He ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Jesus, because he was about to pass by that way. <sup>5</sup>When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today.” <sup>6</sup>He came down quickly and welcomed Jesus joyfully. <sup>7</sup>When the people saw it, they were all grumbling because he went to be a guest of a sinful man.

<sup>8</sup>Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord, I am going to give half of my possessions to the poor. And if I have cheated anyone out of anything, I will pay back four times as much.”

<sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, “Today, salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup>For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

**HYMN: 615 “We Thank You for Your Blessings”**

**SERMON: Luke 19:1-10 “Hurry and Come Down”**

**THANKSGIVING PROFESSION OF FAITH:**

*The Apostles’ Creed, plus a combination of Luther’s explanations of the 1<sup>st</sup> Article of the Apostles’ Creed and of the 4<sup>th</sup> Petition of the Lord’s Prayer.*

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

**I believe that God created me and all that exists, and that He gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears and all my members, my mind, and all my abilities.**