



Giving

Thanks

Wednesday, November 24th, 2021 • 7:00 pm
Catholic Church of St. Peter

WELCOME AND CALL TO SERVICE:

Father Craig Timmerman, Catholic Church of St. Peter

Leader: Come, let us give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

People: God's love is everlasting.

Leader: Let us praise God joyfully.

People: Let us come before God with songs of thanksgiving.

OPENING HYMN: "We Gather Together"

WE GATHER TOGETHER

1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing; He
2. Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing, Whose
3. We all do ex - tol you, our lead - er tri - um - phant, And

1. chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known; The
2. king - dom calls all to the love which en - dures. So
3. pray that you still our de - fend - er will be. Let

1. wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing: Sing
2. from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning: You,
3. your con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion: Your

1. prais - es to his name; he for - gets not his own.
 2. Lord, were at our side; all — glo - ry be yours!
 3. name be ev - er praised! O — Lord, make us free!

Text: 12 11 12 11; *Wilt heden nu treden*; tr. by Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, alt.
 Music: KREMSER; Valerius' *Nederlandsche Gedenckclanck*, Haarlem, 1626; arr. by Edward Kremser, 1838–1914.

THE LITANY OF THANKSGIVING:

Pastor Joy Ekstedt, Trinity Lutheran Church

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord for the good world; for things great and small, beautiful and awesome; for seen and unseen splendors;

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For human life; for talking and moving and thinking together; for common hopes and hardships shared from birth until our dying;

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For work to do and strength to work; for the comradeship of labor; for exchanges of good humor and encouragement;

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For marriage; for the mystery and joy of flesh made one; for mutual forgiveness and burdens shared; for secrets kept in love;

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For family; for living together and eating together; for family amusements and family pleasures;

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For children; for their energy and curiosity; for their brave play and their startling frankness; for their sudden sympathies;

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For the young; for their high hopes; for their irreverence toward worn-out values; their search for freedom; their solemn vows;

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For growing up and growing old; for wisdom deepened by experience; for rest in leisure; and for time made precious by its passing;

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For your help in times of doubt and sorrow; for healing our diseases; for preserving us in temptation and danger;

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For the church into which we have been called; for the good news we receive; for our life together in the Lord;

People: We praise you, God.

Leader: For your Holy Spirit, who guides our steps and brings us gifts of faith and love; who prays in us and prompts our grateful worship.

People: We praise you, God.

Leader: Above all, O God, for your Son Jesus Christ, who lived and died

and lives again for our salvation; for our hope in him, and for the joy of serving him;

People: We thank and praise you, God, for all your goodness to us. Amen

FIRST READING: Isaiah 42:21-43:3a

Reverend Andrew Davis, Union Presbyterian Church

The Lord was pleased, for the sake of his righteousness, to magnify his teaching and make it glorious. But this is a people robbed and plundered, all of them are trapped in holes and hidden in prisons; they have become a prey with no one to rescue, a spoil with no one to say, "Restore!" Who among you will give heed to this, who will attend and listen for the time to come? Who gave up Jacob to the spoiler, and Israel to the robbers? Was it not the Lord, against whom we have sinned, in whose ways they would not walk, and whose law they would not obey? So he poured upon him the heat of his anger and the fury of war; it set him on fire all around, but he did not understand; it burned him, but he did not take it to heart. But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

PSALM:

Reverend Bill Nelsen, First Lutheran Church

Leader: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,

People: slow to anger and of great kindness.

Leader: The Lord is loving to everyone,

People: and his compassion is over all his works.

Leader: All your works praise you, O Lord,

People: and your faithful servants bless you.

Leader: They make known the glory of your kingdom,

People: and speak of your power;

Leader: that the peoples may know of your power

People: and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Leader: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;

People: your dominion endures throughout ages.

Leader: The Lord is faithful in all his words

People: and merciful in all his deeds.

Leader: The Lord upholds all those who fall;

People: he lifts up those who are bowed down.

Leader: The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord,

People: and you give them their food in due season.

Leader: You open wide your hand

People: and satisfy the needs of every living creature.

Leader: The Lord is righteous in all his ways

People: and loving in all his works.

Leader: The Lord is near to those who call upon him,

People: to all who call upon him faithfully.

Leader: He fulfills the desire of those who fear him;

People: he hears their cry and helps them.

Leader: The Lord preserves all those who love him,

People: but he destroys all the wicked.

Leader: My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord;

People: let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Father Tom Harries, Holy Communion Episcopal Church

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all--this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

HYMN: "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME

1. Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come, Raise the song of har-vest-home;
2. All the world is God's own field, Fruit un-to his praise to yield;
3. For the Lord our God shall come, And shall take his har-vest home;
4. E-ven so, Lord, quick-ly come To your fi-nal har-vest-home;

1. All is safe-ly gath-ered in, Ere the win-ter storms be-gin;
2. Wheat and tares to-geth-er sown, Un-to joy or sor-row grown;
3. From his field shall in that day All of-fens-es purge a-way;
4. Gath-er all your peo-ple in, Free from sor-row, free from sin;

1. God, our Mak - er, does pro - vide For our wants to be sup - plied;
 2. First the blade, and then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap - pear:
 3. Give his an - gels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,
 4. There, for ev - er pu - ri - fied, In your pres - ence to a - bide:

1. Come to God's own tem - ple, come, Raise the song of har - vest - home.
 2. Grant, O har - vest Lord, that we Whole - some grain and pure may be.
 3. But the fruit - ful ears to store In his gar - ner ev - er - more.
 4. Come, with all your an - gels, come, Raise the glo - rious har - vest - home.

Text: 77 77 D; Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.
 Music: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR; George J. Elvey, 1816–1893.

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:25-33

Father Craig Timmerman, Catholic Church of St. Peter

"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? 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? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. 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? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

SERMON:

Reverend Andrew Davis, Union Presbyterian Church

OFFERING HYMN: "Praise and Thanksgiving"

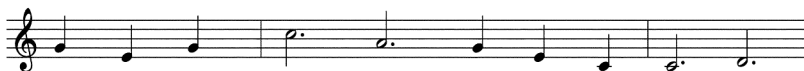
Praise and Thanksgiving



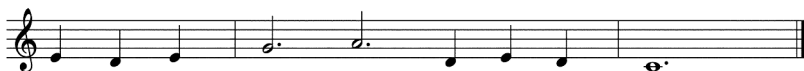
1. Praise and thanks - giv - ing, Fa - ther, we of - fer,
2. Lord, bless the la - bor We bring to serve you,
3. Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing Food for your chil - dren,
4. Then will your bless - ing Reach ev - 'ry peo - ple,



For all things liv - ing You have made good.
That with our neigh - bor We may be fed.
Your wis - dom guid - ing Teach - es us share
Free - ly con - fess - ing Your gra - cious hand.



Har - vest of sown fields, Fruits of the or - chard,
Sow - ing or till - ing, We would work with you,
One with an - oth - er, So that re - joic - ing
Where you are reign - ing No one will hun - ger,



Hay from the mown fields, Blossom and wood.
Har - vest - ing, mill - ing, For dai - ly bread.
With us, all oth - ers May know your care.
Your love sus - tain - ing, Fruit - ful the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, © 1988, Oxford University Press
Tune: BUNESSAN, 5 5 5 4 D; Gaelic; harm. by A. Gregory Murray, OSB, 1905-1992

THANKSGIVING PRAYER: Pastor Joy Ekstedt, Trinity Lutheran Church

Sustaining God, we thank you for the out-pouring of your life-giving Spirit, into the world and into each of us, guiding us, uniting us and enriching all humankind. We ask that the fruit of the Spirit in our lives might be used to feed the hungry of this hurting world. May we show generosity to the poor and starving and stand up for justice and freedom. May we offer new life in you to those who hunger for meaning, and show your love to those who are lonely or distressed. For all your loving gifts to us.

LORD'S PRAYER: Reverend Bill Nelsen, First Lutheran Church

Gathering all of our prayers and praise into one, let us pray as Jesus, our

Savior and Brother, has taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven...

CLOSING PRAYER:

Father Tom Harries, Holy Communion Episcopal Church

Lord God, You gather us together as one people, grateful not only for the gift of life itself, but also for the many gifts of friendship, love, devotion and forgives that we share in common. We thank You, dear God, for showing us how to return our thanks by living lives of service, by genuine deeds of hospitality, by extending kindness to the stranger and by our showing of concern for each other. Help us to appreciate and to respect one another. Allow us to see the full spectrum of Your gifts and the marvelous diversity of Your many peoples. Use us to make You visible and known to others in countless ways so that Your great love for us might be mirrored in our love for one another. As we again prepare to celebrate the feast of Thanksgiving, help us live our lives with ever grateful and humble hearts. Bless us this day and all days without end, forever and ever. **Amen.**

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION:

Father Craig Timmerman, Catholic Church of St. Peter

Leader: May thanksgiving be more than a special day; may it be for us a way of life.

People: We have been enriched in every way for great generosity.

Thanksgiving to our God!

Leader: Appreciate anew the good earth that is our inheritance from a loving God.

People: We celebrate again God's goodness to our ancestors and God's continuing provision for us.

Leader: The God who has answered our prayers asks our help in answering the prayers of others.

People: We will not forget the source of our good life or think we can keep it by hoarding it.

Leader: God, who raised mountains and stills roaring seas, will dwell with us to calm and uplift.

People: Grant us, O God, to live peaceably with all your love and with thankfulness at the heart of all we do.

Leader: May the blessing of God rest and remain upon all his people, of every race and language; may the Lord meet in mercy all who seek him; may the Lord comfort with tenderness all who suffer and mourn; and may the Lord hasten his coming and give us the blessing of his peace.

People: Amen!

Leader: Go now in peace to serve God and one another.

People: Thanks be to God!

CLOSING HYMN: America, the Beautiful

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

1. O beau-ti-ful for spa-cious skies, For am-ber waves of grain, For
2. O beau-ti-ful for pil-grim feet, Whose stern, im - pas-sioned stress A
3. O beau-ti-ful for he-roes proved In lib-er-a-ting strife, Who
4. O beau-ti-ful for pa-triot dream That sees be-yond the years Thine

1. pur-ple moun-tain maj-es-ties A-bove the fruit-ed plain!
2. thor-ough-fare for free-dom beat A-cross the wil-der-ness!
3. more than self their coun-try loved, And mer-cy more than life!
4. al-a-bas-ter cit-ies gleam, Un-dimmed by hu-man tears!

1. A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God shed his grace on thee, And
2. A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God mend thine ev-'ry flaw, Con-
3. A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! May God thy gold re-fine, Till
4. A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God shed his grace on thee, And

1. crown thy good with broth-er-hood From sea to shin-ing sea!
2. firm thy soul in self-con-trol, Thy lib-er-ty in law!
3. all suc-cess be no-ble-ness, And ev-'ry gain di-vine!
4. crown thy good with broth-er-hood From sea to shin-ing sea!

We give thanks to God for the spirit of unity among the Christian community here in St. Peter. May our Lord bless us with the peace of God which passes all understanding. Tonight's offering will be donated to the Pastor's Association fund to be used for emergency gas and motel vouchers. Due to COVID, we will not have a social gathering after. Please take this program with you.

Acknowledgments:

Chad Winterfeldt, Organist, GAC

Barbara Frank, Music Coordinator

The Church of St. Peter Staff and Volunteers, and Sacristans for the assistance in welcoming and hospitality.

The Pastors and Leaders of our local Churches.

All who participated today.

