# Joint Thanksgiving Eve Service
# St. Andrew's Lutheran & Faith Lutheran
**November 25, 2020**
**6:30 PM**

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# *Joint Thanksgiving Communion Service*

*November 25, 2020*
*6:30 PM*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Stand*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, **+** one God who forgives our sin, heals every illness, saves us from death, enfolds us with tender care, and crowns us with steadfast love.

a **Amen**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

P God of abundant mercy,

a **we confess that we are more ready to be forgiven than to forgive others. We hold too closely your gifts to us. We trample your vineyard, our good earth. Have mercy, O God; turn us again to you and toward others; and grant that we may live for you and die in you, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.**

P God is generous and faithful, forgiving sins without number, welcoming all to the feast, giving us a place among the saints. Through the humble obedience of + Christ Jesus, who went to the cross for our sake, you are forgiven and made whole. The Spirit of God is at work in you, enabling you to live for one another.

a **Amen**

## GATHERING SONG

### Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

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

## GREETING

P Grace and peace from our God and Father, hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, and the consolation of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

a **And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P 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 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

a **Amen**

**FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 8:7–18**

*Times of abundance tempt us to forget the Lord and rely on our own power and resources. But the Lord is the one who took Israel out of Egypt, led and fed them in the wilderness, brought them into the land, and gave them power to be productive. To thank this God is to remember and proclaim God's deeds.*

7 For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with
springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, 8 a land of wheat and barley,
of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, 9 a land where you
may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and
from whose hills you may mine copper. 10 You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your
God for the good land that he has given you.
11 Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God, by failing to keep his
commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today.
12 When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, 13 and when
your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you
have is multiplied, 14 then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God, who brought
you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, 15 who led you through the great
and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made
water flow for you from flint rock, 16 and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your
ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. 17 Do
not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth."
18 But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that
he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

L The word of the Lord.

a **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 65**

[1]You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.
[2]To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.
[3]Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.
[4]Happy are they whom you choose
and draw to your courts to dwell there!
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house,
by the holiness of your temple.
[5]Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,
O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.
[6]You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.
[7]You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.
[8]Those who dwell at the ends of the earth
will tremble at your marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.
[9]You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.
You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.
[10]You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
[11]You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.
[12]May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.
[13]May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.

**SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 9:6–15**

*Christian fellowship involves sharing with those in need. Here Paul is gathering a collection for the church in Jerusalem from all the Gentile churches he helped found. We can be extravagant in our giving because God is extravagant, not stingy, in providing for our lives.*

[6]The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows
bountifully will also reap bountifully. [7]Each of you must give as you have made up your
mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. [8]And God is able
to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of
everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. [9]As it is written,

"He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever."

[10]He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed
for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. [11]You will be enriched in every
way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; [12]for the
rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with
many thanksgivings to God. [13]Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your
obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with
them and with all others, [14]while they long for you and pray for you because of the
surpassing grace of God that he has given you. [15]Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

L The word of the Lord.
a **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**GOSPEL: Luke 17:11–19** Pastor Doug Givan

P The holy gospel according to Luke the seventeenth chapter.

a **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*A Samaritan leper becomes a model for thanksgiving. He does not take for granted the kindness shown to him, but takes time to thank Jesus and glorify God.*

[11]On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee.
[12]As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, [13]they called
out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" [14]When he saw them, he said to them, "Go
and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. [15]Then one of
them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. [16]He
prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. [17]Then Jesus
asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? [18]Was none of them
found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" [19]Then he said to him, "Get up
and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

a **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*

**SERMON** Pastor Doug Givan

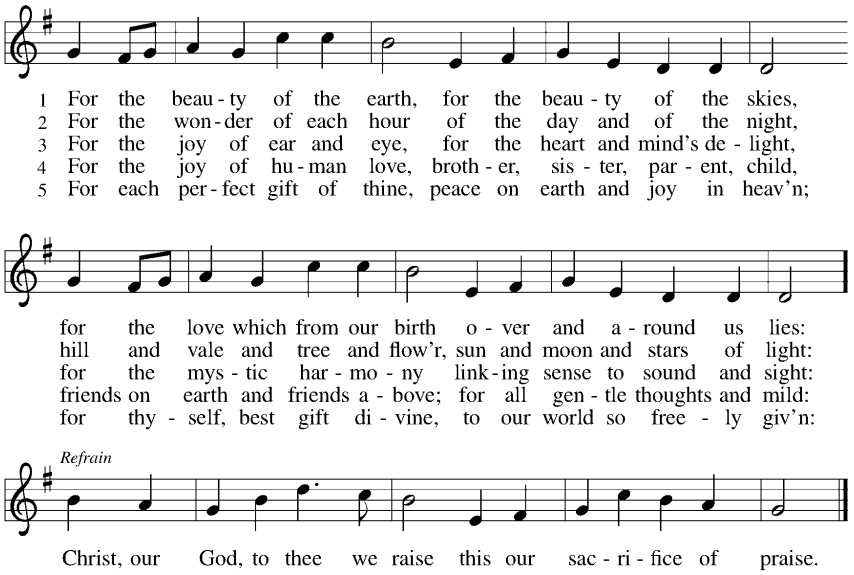
*"Where Are the Other Nine?"*

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

*Stand*

**SPECIAL MUSIC** Virtual Choir

For the Beauty of the Earth




Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

**APOSTLES CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

L Clinging to the promise of abundant life and resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

L Giver and sustainer of life, your church sings your praise, our hearts full with thanksgiving for your saving deeds. Make us ever thankful, gracious, and generous. Hear us, O God.

a **Your mercy is great.**

L Generous God, you brought us into a good land. Make us faithful stewards of the marvelous gifts of your creation. We praise you for your bounty showered upon us. Hear us, O God.

a **Your mercy is great.**

L Pilgrim God, you journey with every nation and people. Guide us into ways of peace and justice, that all would have reason to give you thanks and praise. Hear us, O God.

a **Your mercy is great.**

L Gracious Lord, you deliver us from every need and every peril by your mighty hand. Reach out and raise up those who suffer in any way *(especially)*, that they would sing your praises. Hear us, O God.

a **Your mercy is great.**

L God of all mercies, on this day of Thanksgiving we are overwhelmed by your generosity. Strengthen and encourage us that others would come to know you through our sharing of your abundance. Hear us, O God.

a **Your mercy is great.**

L Loving Savior, the generations rise and fall before you. We praise you for the gift of our forebears. As you gather every generation to your breast, strengthen those who grieve with your promise of abundant life. Hear us, O God.

a **Your mercy is great.**

P Receive these our prayers, O God, and give us all we need for this day and the days to come, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

a **Amen.**

**PEACE**

Sharing of the Peace - "Namaste"

*Sit*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

L Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

a **Amen.**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

*(Please wait to partake of the elements until the Invitation to Communion after the Lord's Prayer)*

The Lord be with you.
**And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts.
**We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

"Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

"This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

**LORD'S PRAYER**

a **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.**

**COMMUNION**

P Come, you that are blessed by God. Come to the banquet.

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
*and each person may respond* **Amen**

*Sit*
*After all have returned to their places, the presiding minister may say a table blessing.*
*Stand*

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
a **Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

L God our shepherd, you have gathered us again from scattered places and nourished us with rich food in word and sacrament. Go with us now, that we may seek the lost, bind up the injured, and strengthen the weak, until you gather us and all the saints into your eternal feast with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
a **Amen.**

**BLESSING**

P The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, + guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
a **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

### Praise and Thanksgiving

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune
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## DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. The Lord is near.

a **Thanks be to God.**

## Thanksgiving

Chick Lane

Thanksgiving is perhaps the ultimate annual stewardship festival. Every year, God's people stop to give thanks to God for God's abundance. It provides the preacher with a great opportunity to announce God's ownership of all that is, and thanksgiving as one important response to God's generosity.

The first lesson for Thanksgiving can be the occasion for a call for such thanksgiving in a culture of considerable affluence. Deuteronomy 8 is a portion of Moses' speech to the people as they prepare to enter the Promised Land. The verses are all about forgetting and remembering. Moses' fear is that when the people arrive in the Promised Land, and when they begin to thrive there, they will forget all that God has done for them, and will instead take credit for all that they have.

These words become all the more powerful, according to numerous commentators, when we realize that they probably weren't written down until centuries later, when precisely what Moses warned against had happened. The people have done well in the land, and they have forgotten God, the source of all they are and all they have.

In his commentary on Deuteronomy (p. 109), Walter Brueggemann has written, "The crisis reflected in the text, and in Israel's lived reality in the land, is that gifts given in abundance to the satiated do not finally eventuate in trusting gratitude, but in complacent self-congratulations. A gift kept long enough begins to seem like a possession. A gift kept long enough becomes separated in the memory from the giver, so that the giver is forgotten."

As we prepare to sing, "Now Thank We All Our God" in the richest land in the history of the world, Moses' words (and Brueggemann's) stand as a harsh challenge to us. How have we forgotten? How have we taken personal credit for that which God has entrusted to our care? How has this kept us from truly remembering the giver? What is the connection between remembering and thanking? And what is the connection between forgetting and self-congratulation?

When I used to preach annually on Thanksgiving, I faced the temptation to use the Thanksgiving sermon as an occasion to launch a broadside attack against those who forgot their neighbor and their God, and took personal credit for their own good fortune. I think I mostly resisted that temptation, and would encourage today's preacher to do the same. This festival, however, provides a powerful opportunity in the midst of unrivaled affluence to remember God, the source of all that is, and remembering to give thanks.

## Calendar

- **Sunday, November 29** 1st Sunday of Advent Virtual Worship 9am
- **Sunday, November 29** Zoom Holy Communion and Adult Faith Formation 7pm
- **Monday, November 30** Zoom Staff Meeting 10am
- **Tuesday, December 1** Zoom FBS 7-8:30pm
- **Wednesday, December 2** Laundry & Friends 4:30-6:30pm
- **Thursday, December 3** Zoom Council Meeting 6pm
- **Sunday, December 6** 2nd Sunday of Advent Virtual Worship 9am
- **Sunday, December 6** Zoom Holy Communion and Adult Faith Formation 7pm
- **Monday, December 7** Zoom Staff Meeting 10am
- **Tuesday, December 8** Zoom FBS 7-8:30pm
- **Tuesday, December 15** Newsletter Items Due to Kelli Steurer

## Announcements

### In Person Worship Suspended

Your church leadership has made the difficult decision to once again suspend indoor worship services *effective immediately*. We believe this is the right thing to do, not only for each other, our congregation, but also as we support our community at large.

***Indoor worship services will be suspended effective immediately through January 17th. We will evaluate the situation again on January 7th with hopes to re-gather for indoor worship on January 24th.***

Communication will continue via our website, email, Facebook, phone calls, and mail. We are called to take care of each other; let us continue to maintain communication with one another through our thoughts, prayers, phone calls, and any other means available!

### Communion Kits

Home communion kits are available! If you were not able to pick these up, please call the church office and we will make sure you get them to use during our worship services.

### Pledge Campaign

Please remember to turn in your commitment card for 2021! This helps our Finance Team put together a budget for the coming year. An email has been sent with the link to do this online. (You can also go to our website and click "Give" in the top right corner.) If you received a paper copy, please be sure to use the self-addressed envelope and return ASAP. Thank you!

### Remember:

- Reach out if you are interested in the digital service on DVD.
- Prayer Chain requests go to Joyce Yockey.
- The Storehouse continues to accept donations.
- FBS Tuesdays at 7:00pm via Zoom.
- Advent begins November 29.

See the complete letter from Lisa McKibban on the reverse side.

**Friday, November 20, 2020**

**Greetings brothers and sisters of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church,**

Your church leadership has made the difficult decision to once again suspend indoor worship services *effective immediately*. We believe this is the right thing to do, not only for each other, our congregation, but also as we support our community at large.

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***Home communion kits are available! If you were not able to pick these up, please call the church office and we will make sure you get them to use during our worship services.***

More information will be coming out in the next couple of days regarding our virtual worship service that will begin this Sunday, November 22nd. We continue to work on strategies to serve our congregation and our community.

Please feel free to reach out to MJ, Pastor Doug, or council members with questions or concerns.

**Here is Bishop Gafkjen's message in the IK Synod's weekly eNews:**

"Dear People of God,

Since my pastoral letter of a couple of weeks ago, the rise in numbers of positive Covid cases has accelerated, as have positivity percentages and the number of hospitalizations and deaths. Not one county in either Kentucky or Indiana is in the safest Covid category as I write this note. Vaccines are on the way but it's clear that they won't be widely available and effective for another few months.

As exhausted and impatient as we might be, it is crucial that we do whatever we can to stem the tide of this plague for our own sakes and for the sake of our neighbors, even if it means following Jesus in the way of the cross by sacrificing for a time some things that are important and meaningful to us.

**In that vein, I strongly recommend that all worshipping communities of this synod suspend in-person in-door worship as soon as possible** and continue the suspension at least through the end of the year. Please return to outdoor, digital, recorded, and live-streamed worship until the numbers and percentages of new positive Covid cases drop significantly and consistently in your county and across the territory."

Take good care of yourselves…continue to wear your mask, wash your hands, cover your cough, clean a little more frequently, and practice social distancing.

Peace be with you…
Lisa McKibban

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