

**Sunday, October 10, 2021
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Thanksgiving Sunday**

11:00 am Sanctuary Service

Prelude: *Thanksgiving Praise* L. Smith

Welcome: Wende Fenske

Territorial Acknowledgements: Rev. Shelagh MacKinnon

Announcements: Joan Mason

Candle lighting: Wende, Shelagh

Invitation to Worship: Wende

Hymn: VU236 *Now Thank We All Our God* (1,2,3) Rinckart/Cruger

Prayer: Introduced by Shelagh

ALL-

God-of-All, we have set aside this day of thanksgiving, because we sometimes have difficulty holding gratitude in the stresses and strains of our times. We sometimes have difficulty remembering to be thanks-giving. We seek to express appreciation: Open our hearts to realize where thanks need to be given. Open our spirits to share the words. Open our lives to be your love. As disciples of Jesus, we ask this. May it be so. Amen.

Time with the Children: *A Thanksgiving Story* Micia Kanstrup

Song: MV 185 *Ev'ry Day is a Day of Thanksgiving* Burks

Scripture: Wende *Isaiah 55:11-13*

This is a Part of our story
Thanks be to God

The New Creed: Wende

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

*We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,*

who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

*We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,*

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God

Anthem: *A Naramata Alleluia*

D. Loomer

Reflection: Rev. Shelagh MacKinnon

Stewardship in the Widest sense of the word

Hymn: MV 182 Grateful (1,2)

Tomaszek

Invitation to Offering: Wende

Prayer of Dedication: Wende

ALL -

Creator God, thank you for being always generous to us. Help us to be always thankful and rejoice in your love. We pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

The Prayers of the People: Shelagh

Whenever we join together, we should give thanks. So let us join our hearts and minds together and think of all creation and the Creator's gifts. Loving God.

We give our thanks.

Let us think of our Mother, the Earth, upon whom we walk and who supports us and nurtures life in all its forms. We think of the minerals, the fungi, and bacteria that give life to soil, bodies and systems. We pray we can learn to walk on Earth with more respect. Loving God, we give our thanks.

Let us think of the reasons why we are gathered. For this place in which we gather, and for all of the animals and plants that call this place home. Loving God, we give our thanks.

Let us think of the whole human family whose livelihood and well-being depends on the well-being of the Earth. We lift up the men, women and children who are displaced from their homes. Loving God, we give our thanks.

Let us turn our minds to the sacred waters of the world, the great oceans, aquifers, lakes, rivers and streams, the life that lives in the waters and those that give itself to be our food. Loving God, we give our thanks.

Let us now turn our thoughts to the plant life of the Creator's world. That which is below ground; the roots and vegetables. That which puts just its head above the ground: the grasses, medicines, plants and bushes. All of the many kinds of good fruit the Creator has given us. And finally, the great trees of the forest that we know of as the "Standing Ones." Loving God, we give our thanks.

Let us think of all our kindred animals, those that crawl, walk, swim and fly. We give thanks for those that provide food for us, those that sustain cycles in their work and living, those that provide companionship and beauty. Loving God, we give our thanks.

Let us think of the birds of the air. The feathered ones that are the messengers between us and the Creator. Loving God.

We give our thanks.

Let us think of the relationships that sustain life in this beloved community. We think of the "Three Sisters," corn, beans and squash who nurture, guard and sustain as they grow together. These relationships are gifts from the Creator and our sustenance. Loving God.

We give our thanks. Amen

(Inspired by the Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Prayer and passed through, among others, Archbishop Mark MacDonald, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop)

Hymn: MV187 *We Give Our Thanks to God*

1) *We give our thanks to God(x4)*

2) *We give out hands to you(x3) because you reached for us*

3)We give our feet to you(x3) because you walk with us.

4)We give our hearts to you(x3) because you first loved us.

Blessing: Shelagh

So now we leave this space of worship and while so much of the road ahead is uncertain, the path constantly changing, we know some things that are as solid and sure as the ground beneath our feet, and the sky above our heads. We know God is love. We know Christ's light endures. We know the Holy Spirit this there, found in the space between all things, closer to us than our next breath, binding us to each other, until we meet we again, Go in peace. Amen.

[Commissioning by Rev. Nora Vedress, Calvary U.C., Prince Albert, Sask.]

Postlude: *Nun Danket Alle Gott*

G.F. Kauffmann