

THANKSGIVING EVE



NOVEMBER 26, 2025

**ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)
124 MAPLE STREET NORTH
LESTER PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA
(320)-395-2573**

Pastor Barlau: Cell (612) 394-6224
Pastor email: pastorbarlau@gmail.com
www.stpaulp.org

WE PRAISE GOD FOR SUSTAINING LIFE IN AND THROUGH HIS WORD-

The nation resounds with thanksgiving for the earth's bountiful harvest, crops of wheat and grains, all beneath the canopy of God's almighty care. But "man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD" (Deut. 8:3). The Church is the vessel through which the Word of God penetrates the world with its Law and Gospel. It is this divine Word that proclaims Jesus as the sole source of life, health and wholeness. It is Jesus who heals lepers with His Word: "Go and show yourselves to the priests" (Luke 17:14). Of the 10 cleansed, only one expresses thanksgiving to Jesus. But true gratitude proceeds from a heart sustained by faith. Jesus bids this one Samaritan to "rise and go your way; your faith has made you well" (Luke 17:19). So also, we are sent from the Divine Service, bolstered in our faith by baptismal and Eucharist blessing to be thankful in our circumstances of plenty and hunger, abundance and need (Phil. 4:6-20).

PRESERVICE MUSIC/CHURCH BELL

OPENING HYMN "COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME" 892

✠ **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** ✠

P. 213-214

✠ **THE SERVICE OF THE WORD** ✠

INTROIT

PSALM 104:24, 14-15

May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
may the Lord rejoice in his works.

O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all;

the earth is full of your creatures.

You cause the grass to grow for the livestock and plants for man to cultivate,

that he may bring forth food from the earth and wine to gladden the heart of man,

oil to make his face shine
and bread to strengthen man's heart.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
may the Lord rejoice in his works.

HYMN OF PRAISE "ALL GLORY BE TO GOD ALONE" 948

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You crown the fields with Your blessing and permit us to gather in the fruits of the earth. As stewards of Your creation, may we receive Your gifts in humble thankfulness and share Your bounty with those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT

DEUTERONOMY 26:1-11

When you come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the Lord your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, 'I declare today to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our fathers to give us.' Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the Lord your God. "And you shall make response before the Lord your God, 'A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he

became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor. Then we cried to the Lord, the God of our fathers, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. And the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O Lord, have given me.' And you shall set it down before the Lord your God and worship before the Lord your God. And you shall rejoice in all the good that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

PSALM 24:8, 147:9, 11

Taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! He gives to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens that cry. The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

EPISTLE

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-15

The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, "He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." 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. You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. For the ministry of this service is not only supplying

the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God. By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission flowing from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others, while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you. Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 12:13-21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

BACK INSIDE COVER OF HYMNAL

HYMN OF THE DAY "FOR THE FRUITS OF HIS CREATION" 894

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P. 215-216

P Lord, in your Mercy,

C Hear our Prayer.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

☞ Gracious Father, thank you for your gracious work among us. We bring before You our hearts and gifts. Kindle in us Your love to serve You and our neighbor. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

- Please remember to fill out a communion/guest card before you leave today.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

P. 216-217

The Sacrament is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord, as He says, gives not only bread and wine, but His true body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation, to repentant, reconciled believers in Christ. Our Lord Jesus invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us (Matt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-29; Matt. 6:15).

We practice closed communion. Why? (1 Cor. 10:16-17). Because our Lord says those who eat and drink His body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm. If not yet instructed, in doubt, or holding a confession differing from that of the LCMS, you are lovingly asked not to commune at this time. Pastor is happy to make an appointment to discuss adult catechesis or questions you have regarding the Sacrament of the Altar.

Examination Questions: Please prepare by asking yourself — Am I sorry for my sins? Do I believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior from sin? Do I believe that I am receiving the body and blood of Christ along with the bread and wine? Will I try, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to live a more God-pleasing life?

Prayers for “Before communing” and “Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament” are printed on the front cover of the hymnal.

SANCTUS	“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”	507
ANGUS DEI	“LAMB OF GOD”	550
DISTRIBUTION HYMNS		
“NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD”		895
“SING TO THE LORD OF HARVEST”		893
“DRAW NEAR AND TAKE THE BODY OF THE LORD”		637
POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE	“LORD, BID YOUR SERVANT GO IN PEACE”	937
POST-COMMUNION COLLECT, BENEDICAMUS, & BENEDICTION		P. 218
BENEDICTION		P. 218
CLOSING HYMN	“ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH DO DWELL”	791
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS		

Thank you to our musicians for providing special music for today's service.

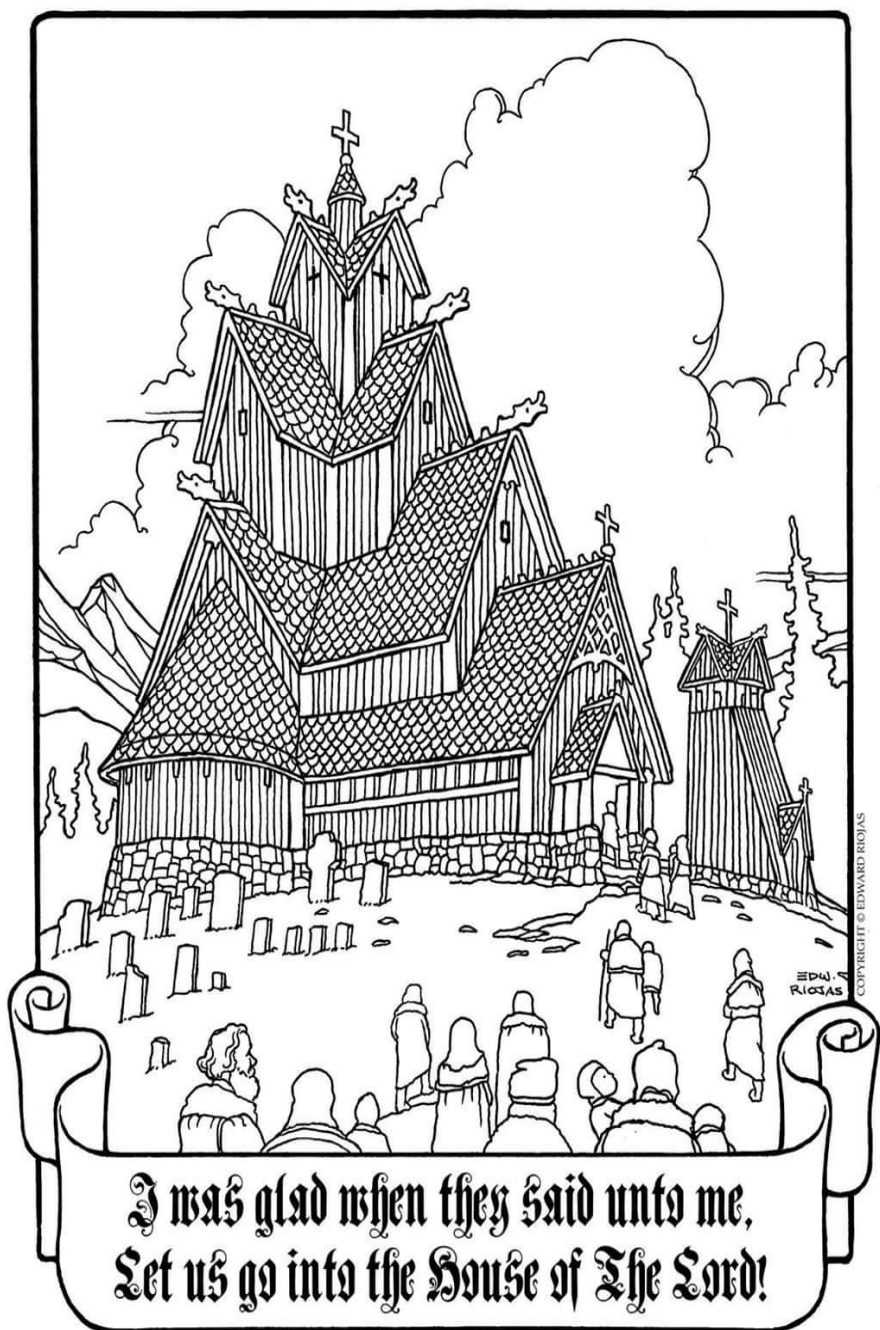
Flute - Jane Holasek, Evelyn Dial

Alto Saxophone - Kiley Mallak

Baritone Saxophone - Keaton Mathews

Trumpet - Adam Posselt, Brielle Christen

Trombone - Broc Mathews, Levi Lee



I was glad when they said unto me,
Let us go into the House of The Lord!