

*Happy
Thanksgiving*



"From the fullness of His grace we have all received one blessing after another." John 1:16

**Messiah Lutheran Church
14920 Hutchison Rd. ~ Tampa, Florida 33625**

DAY OF NATIONAL THANKSGIVING

November 25, 2021

Gracious God, You are the Provider of every gift and blessing! Receive my gratitude and my worship for the temporal and eternal benefits of being Your beloved child. May I rededicate myself this Thanksgiving Day to share the joy of Jesus my Savior and Lord, Amen.

A blessed Thanksgiving Day to all! What a privilege to begin this morning with our worship and adoration to Him who provides us with all we need to sustain our lives. Let us thank the Lord, sing His praise and tell everyone what He has done!

The Cornucopia on our altar this morning represents the bountiful blessings from the loving hands of our Creator. Also included in this bounty are the spiritual gifts of God's Word and the bread and chalice of wine reminding us of Jesus who comes to us with His Body and with His Blood for our forgiveness and life. Our thanks to members of the Altar Guild for providing the fruits of God's harvest.

Advent Schedule

Messiah invites you to prepare for the celebration of our Lord's coming by setting aside Wednesdays in Advent. We will offer one devotional worship time with an evening supper:

6:00 p.m. ~ Free-will Offering supper

7:00 p.m. ~ Worship

The theme for our advent services is Advent: A Time of:

Hope ~ Wednesday, December 1st

Peace ~ Wednesday, December 8th

Joy ~ Wednesday, December 15th

Please feel free to also watch the service online at your home at www.MessiahTampa.com/Christmas.



Order of Worship

A Thanksgiving Day Worship Celebration

On this national Day of Thanksgiving, our Lord God gathers us to bless our lives once again with His Word and Presence! In response we give thanks with a grateful heart, not just today but everyday, and not just for physical blessings but for spiritual gifts of forgiveness and life eternal.

Prelude

Word of Welcome

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Litany of Thanksgiving

“Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise;
give thanks to Him and praise His name.”

For the Lord is good and His love endures forever;
His faithfulness continues through all generations.” (Psalm 100:4-5)

“I will give thanks to the Lord because of His righteousness.
and will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High.” (Psalm 7:17)

“Let us give thanks to the Lord for His unfailing love
and His wonderful deeds for all.” (Psalm 107:8)

“Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter and give thanks to the Lord.” (Psalm 118:19)

“I will praise God’s name in song
and glorify Him with thanksgiving.” (Psalm 69:30)

The Opening Hymn “Come, You Thankful People, Come” #495

*Come, ye thankful people, come; Raise the song of harvest home.
All is safely gathered in Ere the winter storms begin;
God, our maker, does provide For our wants to be supplied.
Come to God’s own temple, come; Raise the song of harvest home.*

*For the Lord, our God, shall come And shall take His Harvest home;
From His field shall in that day All offenses purge away;
Give His angels charge at last In the fire tares to cast,
But the fruitful ears to store In His garner evermore.*

*Even so, Lord, quickly come To Thy final Harvest home;
Gather Thou thy people in, Free from sorrow, free from sin,
There forever purified, In Thy garner to abide.
Come with all Thine angels, come,
Raise the glorious Harvest home.*

Confession of Sin/Declaration of Forgiveness

P: Oh God, forgive our times of ingratitude.

C: Forgive us, O Lord, for not appreciating the wonder of Your creation; for all too often taking without giving; for reaping without sowing; for somehow believing at times that we deserve the comforts and blessings that we enjoy. Forgive us for holding too tightly to possessions we think we own rather than holding more tightly to You by faith. We confess that at times we appear to be too busy or too tired or too forgetful to give You our thanks. For the sake of Jesus, forgive our times of ingratitude.

P: Fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, having confessed our sins of thanklessness, may we be confident of the mercy and merits of Jesus Christ who offered His life as a sacrifice for all our sins. Therefore, with thankful hearts we receive God's gift of forgiveness offered to us through Jesus Christ.

C: Amen. O give thanks to the Lord for He is good. His mercy endures forever!

The Hymn of Praise

"We Praise You, O God"

#494

*We praise you, O God, our redeemer, creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you;
We bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.*

*We worship you, God of our fathers, we bless you;
Through trial and tempest our guide you have been.
When perils o'er take us, you will not forsake us,
And with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.*

*With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us.
To you, our great redeemer, forever be praise!*

The Old Testament Lesson

Deuteronomy 8:1-10

“The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. ² And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. ³ And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. ⁴ Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. ⁵ Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. ⁶ So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. ⁷ For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the 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 in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. ¹⁰ And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Philippians 4:6-20

⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰ I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹ Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹² I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

¹⁴ Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. ¹⁵ And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. ¹⁶ Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. ¹⁷ Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. ¹⁸ I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰ To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

The Gospel of the Lord

Luke 17:11-19

¹¹ On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance ¹³ and lifted up their voices, 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 cleansed. ¹⁵ Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; ¹⁶ and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Then Jesus answered, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? ¹⁸ Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹ And he said to him, “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”

This is the Good News of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ!**

Our Profession of Faith

(Dr. Martin Luther's explanation to the First Article of the Apostles' Creed)

I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still preserves them;

also clothing and shoes, meat, and drink, house and home, wife and children, fields, cattle, and all my goods; that He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life;

that He defends me against all danger, and guards and protects me from all evil;

and all this purely out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me;

for all which it is my duty to thank and praise, to serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

"Let All Things Now Living"

*Let all things now living A song of thanksgiving
To God the creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, Protected and stayed us,
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, His light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night, Till shadows have vanished
And darkness is banished, As forward we travel from light into light.*

*His law he enforces, The stars in their courses
And sun in its orbit obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, The rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine.
We too should be voicing Our love and rejoicing;
With glad adoration a song let us raise
Till all things now living Unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"*

Sharing Thanksgiving Thoughts

- Francesca Aldrich
- David Puigdomenech
- Colleen Handrick

The Thank-Offering

Thanksgiving offering will go towards our Hispanic Ministry.

Our Prayers of Intercession

P: With thankful hearts, Lord, we bring you our prayers and petitions. We remember Your many acts of kindness to Your people through all ages which merit our unending thanks. We bless You for the orderly progression of the seasons and thank You for the rich harvest from the fields of our land. Bountiful Lord,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for the world, where thankfulness sometimes is in short supply and a spirit of sharing is often lacking. Grant us all things needful for our lives, O God, and direct our deeds that we may be good stewards of the earth. Gracious Lord,

C: hear our prayer.

P: At this time of thanksgiving, we pray for the church, which is our spiritual Home. Endow its leaders and all the people with thankfulness and a willingness to speak of Your gracious love to everyone. Caring Lord,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Also, we pray for ourselves, that we would be truly thankful people not only at the time of harvest but in all times and seasons. Precious Lord,

C: hear our prayer.

P: On this day of joy and thanksgiving, we pray for those with special needs, whose earthly journeys are challenging or difficult. Especially we remember the sick, the shut-in, and also those known to us who are in need of prayer. Blessed Lord,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of time and eternity, we thank You for the faithful witness of those who rejoice in Your heavenly presence. May we be inspired by their faithful witness that is our heritage and may we seek to serve You constantly all our days. Eternal God,

C: hear our prayer in Jesus' name, Amen.

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.*

The Benediction

The Closing Hymn

“America the Beautiful”

*O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea.*

*O beautiful for pilgrim feet, Whose stern, impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat Across the wilderness!
America! America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in law.*

*O beautiful for heroes proved In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved, And mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness, And ev'ry gain divine.*

*O beautiful for patriot dream That sees, beyond the years,
Thine alabaster cities gleam, Undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea.*

The Postlude

+ A Blessed Thanksgiving To All +

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*A day to give thanks for our
gifts from above with hearts
full of happiness and love.*

God is Good!

*Happy
Thanksgiving
Psalm 107:1*

