



Harvest in Provence - Vincent van Gogh, 1888

One of the most evident and characteristic traits of a Christian community ought to be that of thanksgiving. We cannot breathe without receiving multiple gifts from our Father, and so we should not breathe without thankfulness.

When we thank the Father, we do not thank him simply for things which appear good to us; we thank him for what he gives. In the book of Ephesians, Paul mentions that we are to be 'giving thanks always for all things.' Giving thanks involves much more than simply "not verbalizing our complaints." It means thanking God expressly for whatever he gives.

Sunday Schedule

10:00 Worship

Welcome to worship at All Saints! We are really glad to have you with us for worship today. Whether you have been a Christian for many years, are trying to sort out what the Christian faith is all about, or are just here as a favor to your friend, we're thrilled to have you as our guest.

Nursery for Ages 0-5:

We have a safe and fun nursery located in the orchestra room near the gym. We use a Kid Check program for security.

Psalm 138

The opening section explains the theme: I give you thanks because on the day I called, you answered me.

'Before the gods' may refer to the angels, as the Greek version of the OT took it to mean. Others suppose these are human rulers (see note on 82:1), while still others think these are false deities. Since the setting is worship in the temple (138:2), the first option is most likely (cf. 1 Cor. 11:10).

ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 22, 2020 | Sunday for Thanksgiving

We urge you, in love, to please wear your face covering whenever you are in the building and throughout the duration of the service. This is an important way for us to protect our neighbor's good health—especially important for the older Christians among us today. As you have likely read in the news, Idaho has some of the highest rates of positive COVID tests in the nation right now, and hospitals are filling up with sick patients. Thank you for caring for the community in this way. If you have a medical exception for face coverings, please fill out the form on the back table to alert us of that fact.

Call to Worship

**I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the 'gods' I sing your praise;
I bow down toward your holy temple and
give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,
for you have exalted above all things
your name and your word.
On the day I called, you answered me;
my strength of soul you increased.**

All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O LORD,
for they have heard the words of your mouth,
and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD,
for great is the glory of the LORD.
For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly,
but the haughty he knows from afar.

**Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve my life;
you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,
and your right hand delivers me.
The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING

KATHERINE K. DAVIS, 1939



1. Let all things now liv - ing a song of__ thanks - giv - ing to
2. His law he en - forc - es: the stars in__ their__ cours - es and



God the__ Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in__ its__ or - bit, o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed__ and stayed us, who
the hills and the__ moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



guides us__ and__ leads to the end of our days.
deeps of__ the__ o - cean pro - claim him di - vine.



His ban - ners are__ o'er us, his light goes be - fore us, a
We too should be__ voic - ing our love and re - joic - ing, with



pil - lar__ of__ fire shin - ing forth in the night,
glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise,



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is__ ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in__ thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we__ trav - el from light in - to light.
God in__ the__ high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

Opening Prayer

Gracious God, we praise you for the continuous cycle of seedtime and harvest and the order of nature. We bless you for the beauty of autumn and its generous yield. We thank you that you are mindful of us and supply our needs. Accept our thanksgiving and our praise for the cycle of life and for all the joys of living. And ever and always we will give thanks in all circumstances because Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again. **Amen.**

Scripture

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

This law commands a regular offering of firstfruits of the harvest, season by season. It acknowledges the goodness of the land promised by God and his faithfulness in keeping his promise.

When you have entered the land the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it, take some of the firstfruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land the LORD your God is giving you and put them in a basket. Then go to the place the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name and say to the priest in office at the time, “I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come to the land the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.” The priest shall take the basket from your hands and set it down in front of the altar of the LORD your God.

Then you shall declare before the LORD your God: “My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous. But the Egyptians mistreated us and made us suffer, subjecting us to harsh labor. Then we cried out to the LORD, the God of our ancestors, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our misery, toil and oppression. So the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with signs and wonders. He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey; and now I bring the firstfruits of the soil that you, LORD, have given me.” Place the basket before the LORD your God and bow down before him. Then you and the Levites and the foreigners residing among you shall rejoice in all the good things the LORD your God has given to you and your household.

HYMN OF ABUNDANCE

FRED PRATT GREEN, 1970



1. For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2. In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3. For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For his gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Confession of Sin

Confession

Since we are created in God's image, we are to be fruitful, or creative. This is often called the "creation mandate" or "cultural mandate." God brought into being a flawless creation, an ideal platform, and then created humanity to continue the creation project. "God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth'" (Gen. 1:28a).

God could have created everything imaginable and filled the earth himself. But he chose to create humanity to work alongside him to actualize the universe's potential, to participate in God's own work. It is remarkable that God trusts us to carry out this amazing task of building on the good earth he has given us. Through our work God brings forth food and drink, products and services, knowledge and beauty, organizations and communities, growth and health, and praise and glory to himself.

Our Father, you who have made mankind in your image and have given us the task to have dominion over other creatures; you have also given us the duty to cultivate the earth that it might yield riches to supply our needs: we thank you for the blessing of labor whereby we are made both workers and stewards:

Thank you, Good Lord.

By selfishness and wayward practices, by ignorance and greed, by idleness and oppression, the curse of the Garden has spread through the world; we have wasted and misused your gifts, and the joy of mankind in work has departed from many. For whatever our part in these sins, we ask your forgiveness, Heavenly Father:

Father, forgive us.

From pride and greed, from the misuse of our bodies and minds; from the hard heart which disregards the need of a fellow servant, and from the dishonest labor which withholds the fullness of promised service; from laziness, and self-indulgence, and inhumanity:

Good Lord, deliver us.

(You are invited to confess your sins silently.)

Assurance of Pardon

Just as Jesus taught: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?' 'An enemy did this,' he replied.

"The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' 'No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'"

Matthew 13:24-30

Brothers and sisters, God has sown good seed in your hearts, those who have faith in Christ. In him, your sins are forgiven. And he promises to gather you to himself at the end of the age. Thanks be to God!

COME, YOU THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME

HENRY ALFORD, 1844



1. Come, you 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 fin - al har - vest-home;



all is safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
He him - self in that great day all of - fense shall take a - way.
Gath - er all your peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin.



God, our Mak - er, does pro - vide for our needs to be sup - plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear;
Give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
There for - ev - er pur - i - fied, in your pres - ence to a - bide.



Come with all his peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
But the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
Come, with all your an - gels come; raise the glor - ious har - vest home.

Passing of the Peace

As recipients of God's grace, we gladly receive peace from him. In response to his grace, we also extend that grace to one another with a handshake or a hug. Traditionally, Christians have greeted one another during this time in the service with the phrase, "The peace of Christ be with you."

Prayers for the Church and World

Why do Christians need to pray?

Because prayer is the most important part of the thankfulness God requires of us. And also because God gives his grace and Holy Spirit only to those who pray continually and groan inwardly, asking God for these gifts and thanking God for them.

Offering

The offering is a way for members and friends of All Saints to support the church's mission and ministry. If you are our guest today, please feel under no compulsion to give. If you would like to give online, visit our website; or text GIVE to 208-591-8044 and follow the instructions that are texted in reply.

Sermon

16 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

"Thanksgiving: An Act and an Attitude"
Rev. Phil Hunter

The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper, also called the Eucharist or Communion, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all baptized followers of Jesus Christ who acknowledge their sins against God and their neighbors, and confess their need for the grace of Christ to partake of this meal. If you are a Christian and haven't been baptized, please talk with one of our pastors. We would be honored to baptize you.

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Almighty and merciful God, from whom comes all that is good, we praise you for all your mercies: for your goodness that has created us, your grace that has sustained us, your wisdom that has challenged us, your patience that has borne with us, and your love that has redeemed us. Help us to love you and all your children and to be thankful for all your gifts, by serving you and delighting to do your will.

Father, thank you...

Make the bread that we break, and the cup of thanksgiving that we drink, a communion in the Body and Blood of Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16).

Communion

Please pick up your communion cups on the entry table. The bread is gluten-free. The grape juice is white and wine red.

Just as the climax of all history will be the Wedding Supper of the Lamb, we conclude our worship in the presence of God by feasting. The Spirit takes the common elements of bread and wine and feeds us spiritually with the body and blood of Jesus, for our nourishment and growth in grace, and so strengthens us to be sent out into the world as God's agents of his generous hospitality.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and acknowledge you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

JESUS, THANK YOU

PAT SCZEBEL, 2003



1. The mys - try of the cross I can - not com - pre - hend ___
2. By your per - fect sac - ri - fice I've been brought near, ___



The a - gon - ies ___ of Cal - va - ry. ___
your en - e - my ___ you've made your friend. ___



You the per - fect ho - ly one ___ crushed your Son ___
Pour - ing out the rich - es of ___ your glo - rious grace, ___



who drank the bit - ter cup re - served for me.
your mer - cy and ___ your kind - ness know no end.



Your blood has washed a - way my sin; Je - sus, thank you.



The Fa - ther's wrath com - plete - ly sat - is - fied, Je - sus, thank you.



Once your en - e - my, ___ now seat - ed at ___ your



ta - ble, Je - sus, thank ___ you.

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

THOMAS O. CHISHOLM, 1923



Sum-mer and win - ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and



stars in their cours-es a - bove, join with all na - ture in



man-i - fold wit-ness to your great faith - ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.

Chorus



Great is thy faith - ful-ness! Great is thy faith - ful-ness! Morn-ing by



morn-ing new mer-cies I see: all I have need - ed thy hand has pro -



vid - ed, great is thy faith - ful-ness, Lord, un - to me!

Benediction and Sending

Let us go forth and serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. And may the God of peace sanctify you completely, and may you be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, 23-24