November 25, 2026
Thanksgiving Eve

Welcome

The Hymn of Invocation

892 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

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

2 All the world is God's own field,
Fruit unto His praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown,
Unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade and then the ear,
Then the full corn shall appear.
Lord of harvest, grant that we
Wholesome grain and pure may be.

3 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 the tares to cast,
But the fruitful ears to store
In His garner evermore.

4 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.

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Invocation and Confession of Sins……(*pg. 151 in Lutheran Service Book)*

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

When we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Hymn of Confession

788 Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness

(sung to #878 Abide with Me)

1 Forgive us, Lord, for shallow thankfulness,
For dull content with warmth and sheltered care,
For songs of praise for food and harvest press,
While of Your richer gifts we're unaware:

2 Teach us to thank You, Lord, for love and grace,
For life and vision, for a purpose clear,
For Christ Your Son, and for each human face
That shows Your message ever new and near.

3 Forgive us, Lord, for selfish thanks and praise,
For words that speak at variance with deeds;
Forgive our thanks for walking pleasant ways
Unmindful of a broken brother's needs:

4 Teach us, O Lord, true thankfulness divine,
That gives as Christ gave, never counting cost,
That knows no barrier of "yours" and "mine,"
Assured that only what's withheld is lost.

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Throughout the ages God sent messengers to confront His people with their sins but He also sent His Son to forgive those sins. Therefore it is my joyfully duty to announce the forgiveness of all our sins, in the name of the Father, Son & Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Old Testament **Ezra 6:19-22 (excerpts)**

On the fourteenth day of the first month, the exiles celebrated the Passover. For seven days they celebrated with joy the Festival of Unleavened Bread, because the Lord had filled them with joy by changing the attitude of the king of Assyria so that he assisted them in the work on the house of God, the God of Israel.

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

Epistle **1 Peter 1:3-9**

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade...kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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

The Gospel **John 15:9-11**

[Jesus said:] "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Thanksgiving confession of faith:

First article of the Creed with explanation

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
What does this mean?

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 takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

The Hymn of the Day

785 We Praise You, O God

1 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.

2 We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You;
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.
When perils o'ertake us, You will not forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

3 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!

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Sermon

803 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

1 Joyful, joyful we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,
Praising Thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

2 All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

3 Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Fountainhead of love divine:
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit!
Joyful, we by grace are Thine!

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The Prayers *[If you need information to send a card or call to someone for whom we prayed, please contact Pastor John.]*

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus
And for all people according to their needs.

After each portion of the prayers:

Lord in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

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.

Prayer

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, move us by the working of Your Holy Spirit to recognize the abundance of Your unceasing blessings that we may give You thanks and serve You in faithful obedience; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
Amen.

The Final Hymn

895 Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.

2 Oh, may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessèd peace to cheer us
And keep us in His grace
And guide us when perplexed
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next!

3 All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns
With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

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Server Schedule

	11/25 Thanksgiving Eve	11/29	12/6
Altar Flowers	Flower Ministry	Ehlers	Spachts
Altar Guild	NA	Nancy K	Monike/Inge
Counters	NA	John Da/Vicki	John Di/Wayne
	3:00 PM	8:30	8:30
Elder	Herold	Edwin	Herold
Reader	Bob	Nanette	Amy
PowerPoint	Gordon	Lisa	Wanda
Organ	Linda	Linda	Linda
Audio	Edwin	Steve	Steve
Visuals	Benjamin	Benjamin	Preston
Acolyte	Herold	Amelia	Gavin
		10:30	10:30
Elder		Erik	Gordon
Reader		Delka	Cole
PowerPoint		Vicki	Cindy
Audio		Conor	Lilia
Visuals		Conor	Donovan

The flowers on the altar today are donated by Renee Zerebeckyj, with the prayer that this Thanksgiving day remind us of our endless blessings.