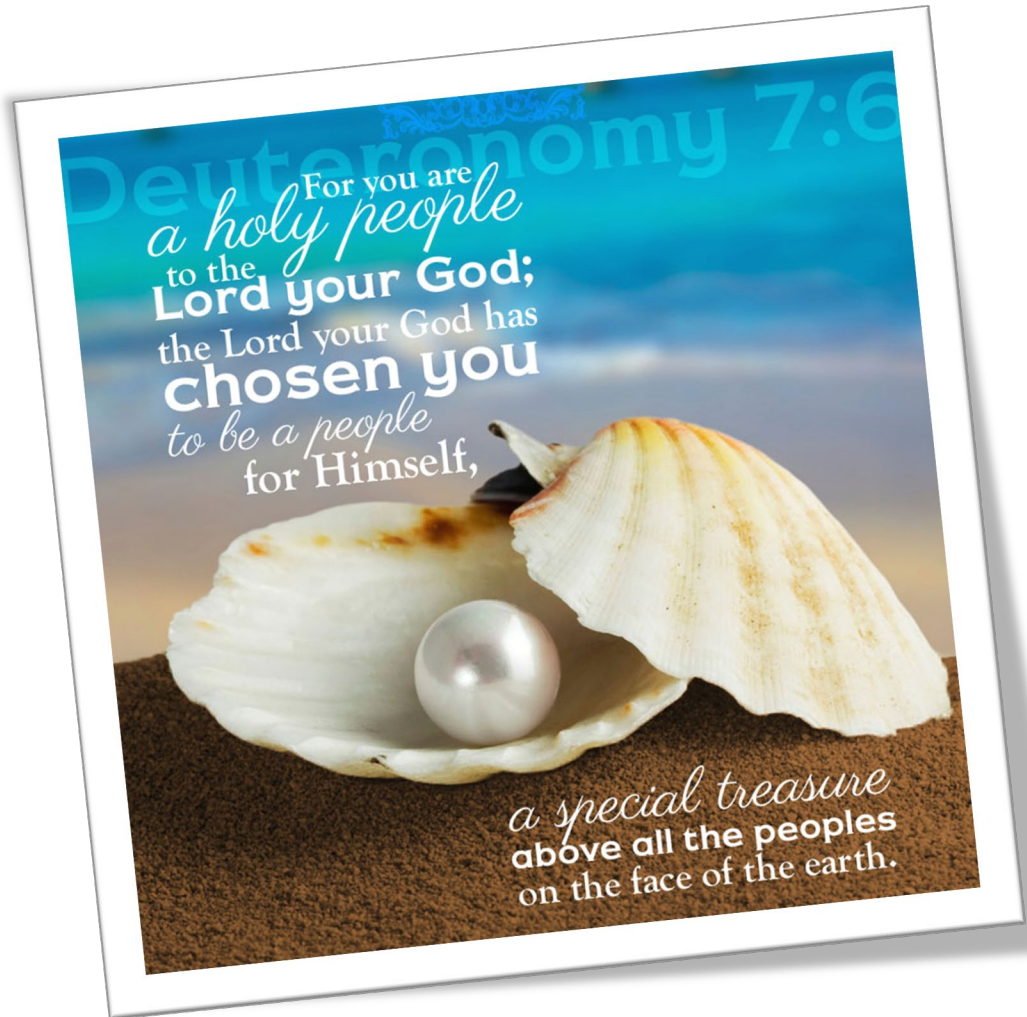


THE FESTIVAL OF THANKSGIVING



November 24 & 25, 2021

THE FESTIVAL OF THANKSGIVING

AS WE GATHER

Welcome to this festival service. Feast and festival come from the same Latin root word. We are going to make that connection in our worship today. Jesus emphasized the importance of knowing Scripture, "*Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.*" Thanksgiving Day is a time for feasting twice, on the Word and on the food God provides for us. May the spiritual banquet this service offers provide you with rich nourishment as well as a special reason for giving thanks to God.

THE INVITATION TO THE FEAST

THE RESPONSIVE READING Isaiah 55 *(remain seated)*

- P:** Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters. And you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.
- C:** **Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.**
- P:** Give ear and come to me; hear me that your soul may live. As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.
- C:** **O give thanks unto the Lord for he is good. His mercy endures forever. We are gathered together in the name of our God.**
- P:** In the name of God the Father who has created us and still preserves us; in the name of God the Son who has given us victory over sin and death; and in the name of God the Holy Spirit who brought us to faith and sets us apart for service.
- C:** **We are gathered together today to remember the goodness of the Lord, and to praise him. Amen.**

THE OPENING HYMN "We Thank You for our Blessings"

CW, #615

(Congregation rises for the final stanza)

1. We thank you for your blessings,
Almighty Lord, our King;
We thank you for the harvests,
Yes, Lord, for ev'rything:
For flow'rs that bloom in springtime,
For rip'ning fruit and grain,
For all the precious sunshine,
And for the gentle rain.

2. This day of great thanksgiving
We count them one by one:
Our free and fruitful country,
The great things you have done,
Our family, our loved ones,
The guardian angels' care,
Our very self and heartbeat --
Lord, hear our thankful prayer!

3. But best of all your blessings,
The rainbow of your love,
Are all the many mercies
Your Word brings from above.
Our life now has full meaning --
Christ Jesus is our God!
Thanksgiving shall be living
The way the Savior trod.

THE PRAYER

C: Amen. (*sung*)

THE SCRIPTURE READING Colossians 2:6-11,13-15

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ. For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority. In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ, having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

THE RESPONSE "Lord of All Hopefulness"

CWS, #769:1

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

THE FIRST COURSE

THE BLESSINGS OF THIS LIFE

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH *First Article* (Luther's Small Catechism)

I believe that God has made me with all creatures, giving me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my faculties;

And that he still preserves me; therefore richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, meat and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, cattle, and all my goods, and all that I need to keep my body and life; defending me against all danger, and guarding and protecting me from all evil;

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

For all of which it is my duty to thank and praise, and to serve and obey him.

This is most certainly true.

THE HYMN "Come, You Thankful People, Come"

CW, #613:1-2

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

All the world is God's own field,
Fruit unto his praise to yield;
Wheat and weeds 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.

THE MAIN COURSE

GOD'S SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS

THE RESPONSIVE READING

(Please stand)

P: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
C: that whosoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

P: If God is for us, who can be against us?

C: He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all - how will he not also, along with him graciously give us all things?

P: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation;

C: the old has gone, the new has come!

P: All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

C: **that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.**

P: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."

C: **"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death is your sting?"**

P: The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

C: **But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

THE RESPONSE "Lord of All Hopefulness"

CWS, #769:2

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labors and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

THE SERMON Deuteronomy 7:11-16, 21 "Thankful to be Treasured by a Faithful Father"

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH *Second Article* (Luther's Small Catechism)

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

THE RESPONSE "Lord of All Hopefulness"

CWS, #769:3-4

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
Be there at our sleeping and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

THE DESSERT

OUR HOPE AND FINAL DESTINY

THE SCRIPTURE READING 2 Peter 3:3-9

God's patience with us goes far beyond what we humans can know. He seems slow to come in judgment... but that is another clear sign of his gracious nature.

First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

THE HYMN "Christ Is Our Cornerstone"

CW, #528:3-4

Here, gracious God, do now
And evermore draw near;
Accept each faithful vow
And all your children hear,
And more and more On those who pray
Each holy day Your blessing pour.

Here may we gain from heav'n
The grace which we implore,
And may that grace, once giv'n,
Be with us evermore
Until that day When all the blest
To endless rest Are called away!

THE OFFERINGS AND PRAYERS

Online or in the entryway. Guests please do not feel any obligation to participate in the offering (though you are always welcome to do so). Please fill out a Guest Card located in the entryway, and drop it in the box on the Welcome Center so we can connect with you – thanks!

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

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God our Father, and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us, now and forever.

C: Amen, amen, amen. (*sung*)

THE PRAYER AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FEAST

"Come, You Thankful People, Come"

CW, #613:3-4

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 For the Lord
our God shall come
And shall take his harvest home,
From his field shall in that day.

Even so, Lord, quickly come
To your final harvest-home;
Gather all your people in,
Free from sorrow, free from sin,
There, forever purified,
In your garner to abide.
Come with all your angels, come;
Raise the glorious harvest-home.

THE POSTLUDE

WELCOME! Welcome to Our Savior Lutheran Church! We love to have guests and friends visit. If you are interested in membership here at Our Savior or would like more information about our church and school, contact Pastor Wagner at 262-377-6363. On Thursday, December 2nd, we begin the Advent season with special worship services on Thursday at 3:30 & 7:00 pm. Our normal worship services are on Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30am.

Pastor: Mark Wagner

Organist: Ann Peterman

Christmas Worship at Our Savior

MID-WEEK ADVENT SERVICES

Thursdays at 3:30 pm & 7:00 pm

December 2nd

December 9th

December 16th



OUR SAVIOR SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Sunday, December 19th at 4:00 pm

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Friday, December 24th

6:00 pm Sunday School Service (Pre School – 6th grade)

8:00 pm Worship Service

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP

Saturday, December 25th

9:30 am Festival Worship

NEW YEAR'S EVE WORSHIP

Friday, December 31st

6:00 pm Worship Service with Holy Communion