

*Thank you,
Lord!*





St John's

Evangelical Lutheran Church & School
520 W Chestnut St, Lake City, MN 55041
651-345-3523 (church) 651-345-4092 (school)
www.StJohnsLakeCity.com
office@StJohnsLakeCity.com

Thanksgiving Eve

23 November 2022 7:00 P.M.

Welcome to this house of the Lord. May everyone find God's peace and Christian friendship here. May our Savior Jesus draw everyone closer to Himself through this service.

We *love* to have **Children** with us in the pews for worship. If they are crying loudly, the **Parents' Room** (just outside the worship area) is a good place for children to regain their composure. Then come back so we can all worship together.

The message God proclaims in His Word is so vital for this life and for the next, we hope everyone will read the Bible daily at home, and then come back for worship again and again!

Pre-worship Pondering:

author unknown

*We thank You for Your blessings, Almighty Lord, our King.
We thank You for the harvest, yes, Lord for ev'ry thing:
for flow'rs that bloom in springtime, for rip'ning fruit and grain,
for all the precious sunshine, and for the gentle rain.*

*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!*

*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.*

Let Us Give Thanks to the Lord!

Hymn

#609

Invocation & Call to Worship (Acts 17:28, Psalm 100)

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen! In Him we live and move and have our being!

P: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness;

C: come before Him with joyful songs.

P: Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His;

C: we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.

P: Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise;

C: give thanks to Him and praise His name.

P: For the LORD is good and His love endures forever;

C: His faithfulness continues through all generations.

Thank You, Lord, for Righteousness Isaiah 61:10-11

¹⁰I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God.

For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.

Sermonette

Prayer

Hymn

#610

Thank You, Lord, for Forgiveness & Food Psalm 65

P: Praise awaits you, O God, in Zion; to you our vows will be fulfilled.

C: O you who hear prayer, to you all people will come.

P: When we were overwhelmed by sins, You forgave our transgressions.

C: Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts! We are filled with the good things of your house.

P: You answer us with awesome deeds of righteousness, O God our Savior.

C: You formed the mountains by your power, having armed yourself with strength.

P: You stilled the roaring of the seas, and the turmoil of the nations.

C: Those living far away fear your wonders; where morning dawns and evening fades, you call forth songs of joy.

P: You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly.

C: You drench its furrows and level its ridges; you soften it with showers and bless its crops.

P: You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance.

C: The grasslands of the desert overflow; the hills are clothed with gladness.

P: The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are mantled with grain; they shout for joy and sing.

C: 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

Sermonette

Prayer

Hymn

#612

Thank You, Lord, for Wealth Deuteronomy 8:10-18a

¹⁰When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you. ¹¹Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his

commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. ¹²Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, ¹³and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, ¹⁴then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. ¹⁵He led you through the vast and dreadful desert, that thirsty and waterless land, with its venomous snakes and scorpions. He brought you water out of hard rock. ¹⁶He gave you manna to eat in the desert, something your fathers had never known, to humble and to test you so that in the end it might go well with you. ¹⁷You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” ¹⁸But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.

Sermonette

The Catechism

First Article of Creed

P: The First Article of the Apostles' Creed

C: I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

P: What does this mean?

[Luther's Explanation]

C: I believe that God created me and all that exists, and that he gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears and all my members, my mind and all my abilities.

And I believe that God still preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, property and home, spouse and children, land, cattle, and all I own, and all I need to keep my body and life. God also preserves me by defending me against all danger, guarding and protecting me from all evil.

All this God does only because he is my good and merciful Father in heaven, and not because I have earned or deserved it. For all this I ought to thank and praise, to serve and obey him.

This is most certainly true.

Prayer

Hymn

#614*

Thank You, Lord, for Preservation & Safety from Mt 13

²⁴Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. ²⁷The 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?’ ²⁸‘An enemy did this,’ he replied. The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’ ²⁹‘No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. ³⁰Let 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.’” ... ³⁷[Jesus explained,] “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. ⁴⁰As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all

who do evil. ⁴²They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

Sermonette

Prayer

Hymn

#613

We bring our Thank Offering forward during this hymn.

Thank You, Lord, for Everything 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

¹⁶Be joyful always; ¹⁷pray continually; ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Sermonette

Prayer

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor, and grant you His peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

#611

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Having spent an hour in grateful remembrance and praise, may you celebrate Thanksgiving Day under the Lord's blessing, to His glory.



If my whole body were a mouth, it would not be enough to thank
Him. —a saying of Nigerian Christians



Thank You, Lord, for loving us all,
For Your gifts both great and small,
For the faith which keeps us strong,
Now we join in thankful song.
For the beauty all around
Ev'ry sight and ev'ry sound,
For the love and friendship we share,
Lord, we bow in thankful prayer.

