

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Pastor Jim Hicks-Interim Pastor
Trey Davis-Musician Tyler Wood-Video
LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST NOVEMBER 22, 2020
THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

GATHERING HYMN

God of The Harvest

(Chorus) You are God of the seed, God of the soil,
God of the hope, God of the toil.
You are God of the rain, God of the sun,
God of the harvest with blessings for everyone.

From the fields and the gardens come your blessed gifts of life.
Colors blossom, vines are dancing, roots uplifted with our thanks. *(Chorus)*

From the womb of all creation springs the fruit, the living light.
Grace abundant, mercy flowing, nourishing and bringing life. *(Chorus)*

Bridge (after 3rd Chorus)

Where there is hunger, where there is need may we share your bounty,
may we always see. *(Chorus)*

Words and Music by Larry Olson and Karol Baer

Please stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Worship God with thanksgiving!

People: **God gives us joyful songs to sing.**

Pastor: Worship God with thanksgiving!

People: **God made us; we belong to God. We are the people of God,
members of the faith community**

Pastor: Worship God with thanksgiving!

People: **We will serve God without holding back, for God is good.**

Pastor: Worship God with thanksgiving!

People: **God's Chosen One Jesus feeds mind and spirit; Jesus is the bread
of life.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor: Our thanksgiving rises to you, O God, on the wings of song and the joy of dance.

People: **When we are fearful of giving expression to our thanks, forgive us!**

Pastor: Our thanksgiving finds expression, O God, when the disadvantaged are identified and the lowly ones affirmed.

People: **When we are apathetic about encouraging the downhearted and supporting the weak, forgive us!**

Pastor: Our thanksgiving comes home to us, O God, when our way of life, our health, or our chance of fulfillment takes a turn for the better.

People: **When we are without hope of change, when we will not see the light, forgive us!**

Pastor: Our thanksgiving breaks barriers, O God, breaks through the limitations of nation, race, and status.

People: **When we keep ourselves to ourselves, when fear or apathy prevents us from taking risks, forgive us!**

Pastor: Our thanksgiving finds a focus, O God, in the person of Jesus Christ.

People: **When we fail to see his image in the crucified ones today, when we hang back from following his way, forgive us!**

(Time for silent reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: Thanksgiving calls us to repentance, to change, O God.

People: **Thanksgiving becomes a reality, as old challenges are squarely faced, as new insights are taken to heart, as we find fresh courage to go in a faithful direction.**

Pastor: God's peace will be your peace. Yours sins are forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Almighty God, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your blessings and obediently serve you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: **Amen.**

You may be seated.

READING**2 Corinthians 9:6-9**

6The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. 9As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 65: 9-13

9You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water;

you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

10You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges,

softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

11You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

12The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy,

13the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

Please stand.

GOSPEL**Luke: 17: 11-19**

Reader: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the Seventeenth chapter.

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

11On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. 12As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, 13they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" 14When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. 15Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. 16He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. 17Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? 18Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" 19Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S TIME (*in place*)

Jesus Loves Me!

Jesus loves me this I know, for the bible tells me so
Little ones to him belong, we are weak and He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me. The bible tells me so.
Public domain

Make Me a Servant

Make me a servant, humble and meek,
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.
And may the pray'r of my heart always be:
Make me a servant, make me a servant,
make me a servant today.
By Kelly Willard MARANATHA! MUSIC

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Lord Listen To Your Children Praying

Lord listen to your children prayin'
Lord send your spirit in this place
Lord listen to your children prayin'
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.
Text and Music Ken Medema©1973 Hope Publishing Company

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

We Gather Together

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
He chastens and hastens His will to make known;
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing;
Sing praises to His Name; He forgets not His own.
Dutch Hymn published in 1625, Author is Anonymous. Translated into English by Theodore Baker.

Please stand.

With the baptized of every time and place we profess the faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Reader: Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Reader: Sovereign of all, train our ears to hear your cry in the needs of those around us. Bless all social ministries of the church through which we seek to serve others as we ourselves have been served. Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Reader: You cause rain to fall on the just and unjust alike. Direct our use of creation to provide for the needs of all people in ways that are sustainable for the earth. Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Reader: Bring peace to every place where conflict rages (*especially*). Grant opportunities for ending divisions among us and usher in your reign of unity and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Reader: Heal the sinful divisions we erect between us and release us from systems of oppression and prejudice. Restore our capacity to see your image in those whose dignity we have stripped away (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Reader: Pour out the gifts of your Spirit on children and youth throughout the church. Sustain those who work in children's ministry, youth ministry, and campus ministry as they nurture the gifts of young people. Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Reader: Accept our thanksgiving for the people you surround us with, especially:

22 Lynn Cowie
22 Erik Swanson
23 James & Stella Werchan (A)
24 Jesse Curren
24 Tiffani Webb
25 Verne Larson
27 Jaycie Webb

enrich them with a sense of your grace and comfort. Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Reader: We pray for the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod, our Bishop and Synod staff, and it's congregations, especially St. Paul's, in Darrrouzett, TX, that together we will boldly proclaim your Good News in Jesus Christ. Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Reader: For those fighting cancer and other serious illnesses, grant strength and grace. We pray for doctors, nurses, technicians, researchers and all who work toward treatments and cures. Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Reader: For those we know and love who serve in our military and their families. We pray that you watch over them and keep them safe bringing them home safely, especially: Evan Bias, Robert Marulli, Kaitlyn Tschida, Adam Shepherd, David Powell, Robert Woodrey, Nick Coleman, Mark Pritchard, James Wagoner, Jonathan Wagoner, Shawn Werchan, Daniel Picazo, Michael Morton, Daniel Mock, Dustin Miller, Rudy Palomares, Tyler Starkey, Jonathan Young, Austin Watlington, Yahola Jones, John Winsworth, James Winsworth, Justin Smith, Kobe Coker, John Burns III, Garrick West, Logan West, Brenden Salvador, and Jordyn Scott. Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Reader: Thank you for saints now departed who fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and tended to the sick. Inspire us by their example, that we may see your presence in those in need around us. Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Reader: Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

The WAVE of PEACE is shared at this time.

People may greet one another, in the name of the Lord, while staying at their seats.

Reader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

***People:* And also with you.**

Please be seated.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord... Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

***People:* 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**

OPEN COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The blessings and body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting.

***People:* Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Together In Christ

(Chorus) Alone we are incomplete, together in Christ we are somebody.
Alone we are incomplete, together we are the family of God.

To start, the world alive, it beats to the rhythm of peace,
Each part different but coming from the heart. *(Chorus)*

We stand on hills like trees in awe of all that we see.
Your hand unites us and gives us to the land. *(Chorus)*

The truest you behind the mask is a glorious gift.
Break through, love is here and lives in you. *(Chorus)*

Words and Music by HANS PETERSON and LINDA BREITA

BLESSING

Pastor: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

People: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

Pastor: Go in peace. Remember the less fortunate.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Upcoming Commemorations

Clement, Bishop of Rome, died around 100 Monday, November 23, 2020

Clement was the third bishop of Rome. He is best remembered for a letter he wrote to the congregation in Corinth, still struggling with the same problems that led to Paul's letters to them. As did Paul, he focused on the need for love among Christians.

Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr, died 1927 Monday, November 23, 2020

Pro grew up in a time when the Mexican revolutionaries accused the church of siding with the wealthy. He became a Jesuit priest, and worked on behalf of the poor and homeless. Falsely accused of throwing a bomb at a government official, he was executed, but not before crying out "Long live Christ the King!"

Justus Falckner, died 1723; Jehu Jones, died 1852; William Passavant, died 1894; pastors in North America Tuesday, November 24, 2020

Not only was Falckner the first Lutheran ordained in North America, but he published a catechism which was the first Lutheran book published on the continent. Jones was the Lutheran church's first African American pastor and carried out missionary work in Philadelphia which led to the formation there of the first African American Lutheran congregation (St. Paul's). William Passavant helped to establish hospitals and orphanages in a number of cities and was the first to introduce deaconesses to the work of hospitals in the United States.

Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, died 1748 Wednesday, November 25, 2020

Thought by many to be the greatest hymnwriter in the English language, Watts as a youth was critical of the quality of the metrical psalter of the time. He wrote about 600 hymns — many based on the psalms, but others that are not.

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