

# MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Growing a deeply connected family of faith*

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**9:15 AM - November 24, 2024 - Thanksgiving Sunday**

**ALIVE! Worship Service**

## INTRODUCTION

*Today's readings reflect two of the strains that go into the celebration of a national day of thanksgiving: gratitude for abundant harvest (Joel) and civic prayer for a peaceable common life (1 Timothy). The core meaning of Thanksgiving for many of us—a home feast for extended family and friends—is not reflected in the readings; but it is reflected weekly in the church's meal of thanksgiving (eucharist). What we wish for both these thanksgiving meals is that they will go deeper than celebration of one another and our own blessings, to recognize in our true Host one who wants everyone brought to the table.*

### *New Doxology*

*Miller/arr. Smith*

#### Verse 1

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts  
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost

#### Verse 2

Let earth and heavenly saints proclaim  
The pow'r and might of His great Name  
Let us exalt on bended knee  
Praise God the Holy Trinity

#### Chorus

Praise God praise God  
Praise God Who saved my soul  
Praise God praise God  
Praise God from Whom all blessings flow

#### Verse 3

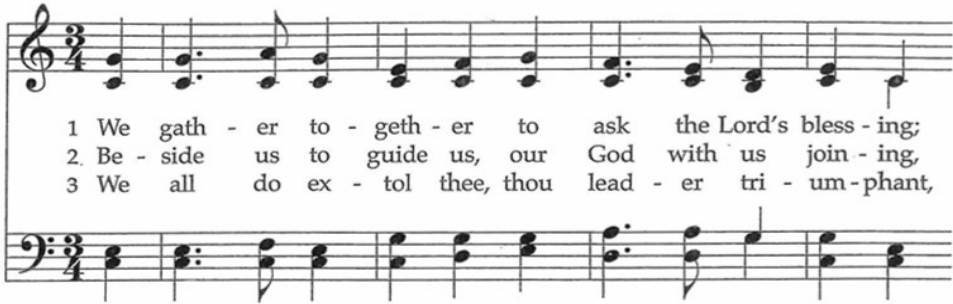
Praise to the King His throne transcends  
His crown and Kingdom never end  
Now and throughout eternity  
I'll praise the One Who died for me

#### *repeat chorus*

Louis Bourgeois, Thomas Ken, Thomas Miller  
CCLI Song #5075025

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## We Gather Together



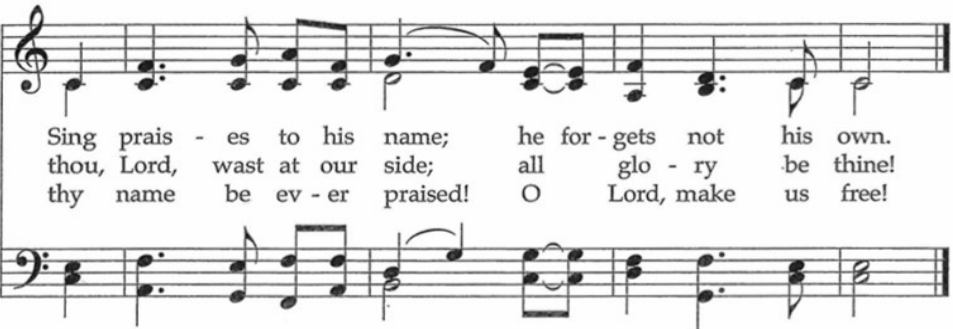
1 We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;  
2 Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,  
3 We all do ex - tol thee, thou lead - er tri - um - phant,



he chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known;  
or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing his king - dom di - vine;  
and pray that thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.



the wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing.  
so from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning;  
Let thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion;



Sing prais - es to his name; he for - gets not his own.  
thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glo - ry be thine!  
thy name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

First published among songs celebrating the end of Spanish control of the Netherlands, this text's blend of patriotism and piety has made it popular at (often ecumenical) Thanksgiving Day services. The tune is named for the Viennese arranger whose male chorus popularized it.

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYERS

### KYRIE

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord.**

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord.**

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord.**

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord.**

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God our Father, 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 benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

# HYMN OF PRAISE

## *Let There Be Praise*

F C/E F Dm Dm/F Gm Gm<sup>2</sup> Gm C

Let there be praise, let there be joy in our hearts.

Am Am<sup>7</sup> Dm Dm/F EbM<sup>9</sup> Eb Csus<sup>4</sup> C

Sing to the Lord, give God the glo - ry. glo - ry.

F C/E F Dm Dm/F Gm Gm<sup>2</sup> Gm C

Let there be praise, let there be joy in our hearts.

Am Am<sup>7</sup> Dm Dm/F Gm F/A Bb F/C C<sup>7</sup> F

For - ev - er - more let his love fill the air, and let there be praise.

## FIRST READING

Joel 2:21-27

A reading from Joel.

*The prophet Joel understood that a locust plague that ravaged the land of Judah was God's judgment on the people, whom he then called to repentance. Today's reading points beyond the judgment to a time when God will bless the land and cause it to produce food in abundance.*

- <sup>21</sup> Do not fear, O soil;  
be glad and rejoice,  
for the LORD has done great things!
- <sup>22</sup> Do not fear, you animals of the field,  
for the pastures of the wilderness are green;  
the tree bears its fruit,  
the fig tree and vine give their full yield.
- <sup>23</sup> O children of Zion, be glad  
and rejoice in the LORD your God;  
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,  
he has poured down for you abundant rain,  
the early and the later rain, as before.
- <sup>24</sup> The threshing floors shall be full of grain,  
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.
- <sup>25</sup> I will repay you for the years  
that the swarming locust has eaten,  
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,  
my great army, which I sent against you.
- <sup>26</sup> You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,  
and praise the name of the LORD your God,  
who has dealt wondrously with you.  
And my people shall never again be put to shame.
- <sup>27</sup> You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,  
and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other.  
And my people shall never again be put to shame.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

1 Timothy 2:1-7

A reading from 1 Timothy.

*Christians are encouraged to offer prayers and thanks for all people, including rulers. We offer such inclusive, far-reaching prayers because God desires to save all people.*

<sup>1</sup> First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup> For there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind,  
Christ Jesus, himself human,

<sup>6</sup> who gave himself a ransom for all

—this was attested at the right time.<sup>7</sup> For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.  
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.  
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL

Matthew 6:25-33

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus taught his disciples about the providence of God so that they would regard life with thanksgiving and trust rather than anxiety.*

[Jesus said,] <sup>25</sup> “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup> Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? <sup>27</sup> And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? <sup>28</sup> And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup> yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. <sup>30</sup> But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? <sup>31</sup> Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ <sup>32</sup> For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. <sup>33</sup> But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

Pastor Wade Roof

## ANTHEM

*Goodness of God*

arr. Jay Rouse

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**



## OFFERTORY

### *We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise*

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is accompanied by a series of chords indicated above the staff. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The score consists of five lines of music.

Chords: D, Em<sup>7</sup>, D<sup>2</sup>/F#, G, F#m<sup>7</sup>, G/A, D, Em<sup>7</sup>, D<sup>2</sup>/F#, Bm<sup>7</sup>, Em<sup>7</sup>, GM<sup>7</sup>/A, A, Dsus, D, D/F#, G, F#m<sup>7</sup>, Bm<sup>7</sup>, Em<sup>7</sup>, G/A, A<sup>7</sup>, D, Dsus/E, D/F#, D<sup>7</sup>, G, F#m<sup>7</sup>, Bm<sup>7</sup>, Em<sup>7</sup>, G/A, A<sup>7</sup>, D.

Lyrics: We bring the sac - ri - fice of praise in - to the house of the Lord; we bring the sac - ri - fice of praise in - to the house of the Lord. And we of - fer up to you the sac - ri - fic - es of thanks - giv - ing; and we of - fer up to you the sac - ri - fic - es of joy.

Text and music: Kirk Dearman  
Text and tune © 1984 Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing  
Arr. © 1997 Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

## COMMUNION

### COMMUNION HYMN

*Thank You, Lord*

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems. The first system contains four lines of lyrics, each corresponding to a voice part. The second system contains four lines of lyrics, also corresponding to the voice parts. The music features a mix of whole, half, and quarter notes, with some rests and ties. The key signature is G major, and the time signature is 4/4.

1 Thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord, thank you,  
2 Been so good, been so good, been so  
3 Been my friend, been my friend, been my  
4 Love you, Lord, love you, Lord, love you,

Lord,  
good,  
friend,  
Lord,  
I just want to thank you, Lord.  
I just want to thank you, Lord.  
I just want to thank you, Lord.  
I just want to thank you, Lord.

Text: Traditional

Music: THANK YOU, LORD, Traditional

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace. **Amen.**

# SENDING HYMN

## *Give Thanks*



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And



now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Text: Henry Smith

Music: GIVE THANKS. Henry Smith

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**DISMISSAL**

**POSTLUDE**

●.....●

**FOR FURTHER STUDY**

Psalm 126

- <sup>1</sup> When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,  
then were we like those who dream.
- <sup>2</sup> Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.  
Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”
- <sup>3</sup> The LORD has done great things for us,  
and we are glad indeed.
- <sup>4</sup> Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses of the Negeb.
- <sup>5</sup> Those who sowed with tears  
will reap with songs of joy.
- <sup>6</sup> Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

## ***ALIVE! Musicians***

*Gale McLeod, Co-Director*

*Clark Ebener*

*Vaughn Hall*

*Irelou Moye, Co-Director*

*Lyndsey Ebener*

*Ricky Lusk*

*Beth Branham*

*Bradley Miller*

*Ed Redmond*

*Leah Conrad*

*David Moye*

*Roxanne Rich*

*Brett Ebener*

*Erin Hall*

## ***Worship Assistants***

*Communion assistant ..... Cathy Crawford*

*Lector ..... Cathy Crawford*

*Greeter ..... Grace Fuson*

*Ushers ..... Paul Jacobs, John Matthews*



Today's altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Ronnie Hutto by Patsy Hutto. May these flowers serve as a reminder of the love and joy Ronnie brought into our lives.

Today's bulletin covers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Ronnie Hutto by Patsy Hutto. On the anniversary of Ronnie's passing, we remember his light and how it brightened our world.



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# THANKSGIVING QUIZ

Fill-in the circle next to the answer which best fits the question.

**1. Before the 1st Thanksgiving, how did the settlers plan to give thanks for the harvest?**

- (A) Exchanging of gifts
- (B) Prayer and fasting
- (C) Mainly eat soups & stews around an evening bon-fire as a community
- (D) Nothing really, continue life as usual

**2. With whom did the pilgrims celebrate their first Thanksgiving in the New World?**

- (A) Sioux
- (B) Wampanoag
- (C) Choctaw
- (D) Seneca

**3. Which of the following was served at the first Thanksgiving?**

- (A) Pumpkin Pie
- (B) Potatoes
- (C) Cranberry Sauce
- (D) Shellfish
- (E) Forks
- (F) Turkey

**4. Where did the tradition of snapping the wishbone come from?**

- (A) From ancient Rome
- (B) From ancient Greece
- (C) From the ancient Etruscans
- (D) From medieval England

**5. Who called a federal Thanksgiving proclamation "the most ridiculous idea ever conceived?"**

- (A) George Washington
- (B) Thomas Jefferson
- (C) Ben Franklin
- (D) Abraham Lincoln

**6. Which founding father of the U.S. wanted the turkey to be our national symbol instead of the bald eagle?**

- (A) Thomas Jefferson
- (B) Abraham Lincoln
- (C) Benjamin Franklin
- (D) George Washington

**7. Which president declared Thanksgiving a national holiday?**

- (A) John F. Kennedy
- (B) George Washington
- (C) Abraham Lincoln
- (D) Thomas Jefferson

**8. Thanksgiving can occur as early as \_\_\_\_ and as late as November 28.**

- (A) November 21
- (B) November 22
- (C) November 23
- (D) November 24

**9. What is the reddish thing that hangs off a turkey's neck?**

- (A) spork
- (B) gribble
- (C) snood
- (D) wattle

**10. What do you call that thing that hangs off a turkey's beak?**

- (A) spork
- (B) gribble
- (C) snood
- (D) wattle



**Welcome to Mt. Tabor.** We are glad that you have chosen to worship with us today! If you are a visitor, please fill out and return the attendance card in your pew rack so we may have a record of your attendance. Our ushers and greeters will be glad to answer any questions you may have about our worship service. We hope that you will experience the presence of the Risen Christ today!

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**Lord Teach Us To Pray:**

*As God's people called to love one another, let us pray for the following members of our church family, who celebrate the anniversary of their baptism this week:* Barbara Popkowski, Georgia Popkowski, Caroline Osterhaus, Frazier Redmond, Jimmy Williams, DeeDee Fogle, Rachel Popkowski, Brittany Carpenter, Rhys Boyd, Lindsey Witcher, Randy Klapman.

**Most Recent Prayer Concerns:**

Rachel Bundrick, Pam Burnett, Bruce Merchant, Betty Wise  
Larry Marchant, Victoria Marchant, Dennis Rybicki, Sr.

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:**

Al & Judy Jordan, Luther Swicegood, Ron Hutto, Sandra Baker, Drewby McQuillen, Mary Davis  
Alice Pollock, Jimmy Williams, Mona Myers, Sadie Howard, Elmer Sundlie  
Dennis Rybicki Jr., Emma Lou Easley, Paul Addy, Paul & Jeanie Jacobs  
Herman Bouknight, Jane Sexton, Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston

**Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:**

Mark Horne, Willie Beason, John Woods, Jimmy Mitchell, David Baldwin, Salvador Brau  
Deidre Huckabee Brau, Falynn Rickards, William Wood, Pat Redmond, Mark Fuller  
Chris Holley, Johnny Smith, Earl Hope, Jack Hyde, Teddy Bowden  
Jackson Bell, Pam Player, Nancy & Emily Waugh, Becky & Phil Frederick, Laura Ann Merrill  
Kim Coker, Grace Kelly, Chuck Backman, Michelle Roe, Beth Murphy  
Justin "Cody" Spires, Billy Holton, Barbara Kohr, Jenny Mack, Tommy Cambell, Niko Bosley  
Angela Livingston, Anne Moye, Isabelle Sundlie

**Members of Mt. Tabor Serving in the Military:**

Adam Davis, Samuel Davis, Scott Hash, Alex Morris

**Family and Loved Ones Serving in the Military:**

Josh Watson, Jacob Henry Burgan, Caleb Neff

**The Family Of:**

Sonia Day, Robbie Hunter, Katie Blackwell Feaster, Don McCraw

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***Worship Leaders***

*Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor*

*Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation*

*Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music*