

Thanksgiving Proclamation of 1863

The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and even soften the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God.

In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign states to invite and provoke their aggressions, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere, except in the theater of military conflict; while that theater has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union.

Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plow, the shuttle, or the ship; the ax has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege, and the battlefield, and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom.

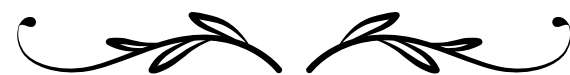
No human counsel hath devised, nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American people. I do, therefore, invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a Day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens. And I recommend to them that, while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation, and to restore it, as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes, to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington, this third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-eighth.

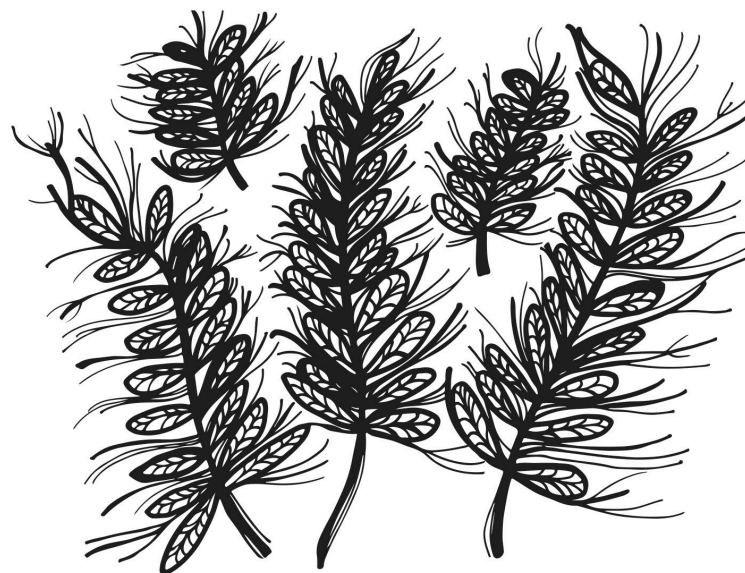
Abraham Lincoln

Thanks for joining both Faith Lutheran Church and Peace Lutheran Church for our joint Thanksgiving Eve Service. We are excited to partner together in this way and can't wait to grow this partnership more!!



Thanksgiving blessings to you and your loved ones!

*Pastor Todd, Pastor Linda, Deacon Amanda,
Pastor Tim, Pastor Katherine and
Faith & Peace Staff Members*



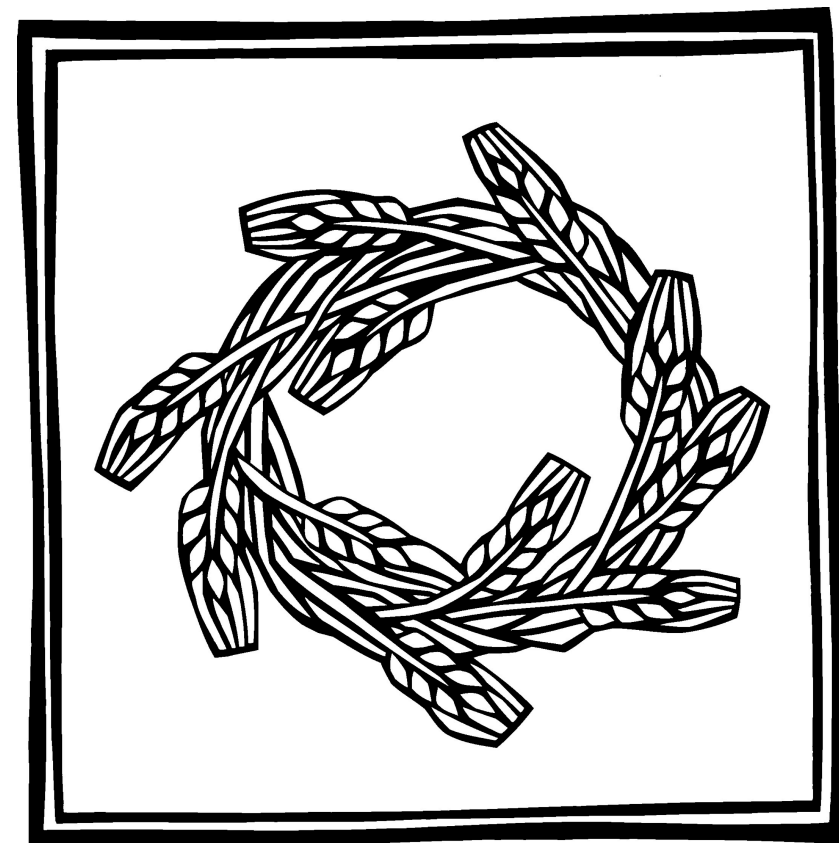
THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US TODAY!

Faith Lutheran Church of Spicer, Minnesota is delighted to have you join us for today's worship service. We are a congregation of the Southwest Minnesota Synod of the ELCA.

Faith Lutheran seeks to live out this mission:

*God gathers us as a family of Faith to nurture, inspire,
and share the love of Jesus with all people*

Thanksgiving Eve Worship 2025



NOVEMBER 26, 2025 - 6:30PM

FAITH
LUTHERAN CHURCH
nurture | inspire | share



WELCOME

HYMN

Now Thank We All Our God ELW 840

LITANY

Show us your mercy, O God,
and grant us your salvation.

Give us the joy of your saving help again,
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

Give peace in all the world;
for only in you can we live in safety.

Keep the nations under your care,
and guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;
your saving health among all nations.

Let not the needy be forgotten,
nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and sustain me with your Holy Spirit.

Lord, hear my prayer,
and let my cry come before you.

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.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

I Sing Because I'm Happy by Rollo Dilworth Joint Choir

1ST READING: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

PSALM: Psalm 100

¹ Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

² **Serve the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.**

³ Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ **Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him; bless his name.**

⁵ For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever and his faithfulness to all generations.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:4-9

GOSPEL: John 6:25-35

SERMON Deacon Amanda Randall-Nelson

HYMN

For the Fruit of All Creation ELW 679

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

All cash offerings will go towards The Link, New London.

All checks will go to the church it is written to.

OFFERING SPECIAL MUSIC

A Thanksgiving Prayer by Don Besig Joint Choir

OFFERING PRAYER

God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

COMMUNION

There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

(Gluten free wafers & grape juice are available - simply ask your server)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.

The holy Trinity bless you ☩ and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Let All Things Now Living ELW 881

DISMISSAL

Go in peace! Share the harvest! **Thanks be to God!**



Copyright Information

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"Let All Things Now Living", text by Katherine K. Davis, music by Welsh folk tune, text © 1939, 1966 E.C. Schirmer Music Company

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