

Bless
US
O LORD
and
these *Thy gifts* which
we are about to receive
Through *Thy bounty*
Through
Christ our *Lord*
we pray.
Amen.

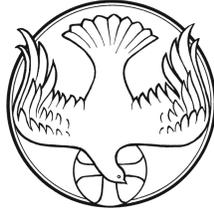
National Day of Thanksgiving
The Liturgy of Matins + November 24, 2022 A.D.

Sharing God's Blessings Today

- Today's Radio Broadcast and the flowers at the altar are sponsored by Donna Nuernberg with this prayer: *"Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth, in their season, and for the labors of those who harvest them. Amen."*
- The flowers at the lectern and pulpit are sponsored by Lois & Jerry Jarosz in thanks and praise to God for all His blessings in our lives.
- Today's bulletins are sponsored by Maureen Rouse and Rosalind Rouse with thanksgiving for family and the grace and joy provided by the Lord during the holidays.

The Thanksgiving Banner: An Explanation

Our gratitude to God centers in the cross of Christ for the great blessings of forgiveness and salvation. We offer heartfelt thanks for these blessings as well as for God's providential care of all his creation every day of our lives and every season of the year. The seasons of the year are illustrated with a snowflake for winter, a tulip for spring, a butterfly for summer, and a leaf for fall. Depicted at the bottom of the banner are God's people of every race and color, lifting up their hands in praise and all their voices to shout, "Now thank we all our God!"



PRELUDES

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"
"Let All Things Now Living"

... Philip M. Young
... Benjamin M. Culli

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Please stand.

HYMN OF INVOCATION

"Come, Ye Thankful People Come"

... LSB #892

VERSICLES

P: O Lord, open my lips,

C: **and my mouth shall declare your praise.**

All: **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. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

VENITE

P: Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C: **Oh, come, let us worship him.**

P: Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the
rock of our salvation.

C: **Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving and
raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

P: For the Lord is a great God, and a great king above all gods.

C: **In his hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the
hills are also his.**

P: The sea is his, for he made it; and his hands have molded the
dry land.

*God, whose
giving knows
no ending,
from your
rich and end-
less store:*

*nature's won-
der, Jesus'
wisdom,
costly cross,
grave's shat-
tered door,*

*gifted by you,
we turn to
you, offering
up ourselves
in praise;*

*thankful song
shall rise for-
ever, gra-
cious donor
of our days.*

*~Robert L.
Edwards,
b. 1915 A.D.*

The problem is that we don't know who God is. We've reduced Him to an aid in distress, a reserve we have in an emergency. We don't see Him just when He's the closest to us: in every event of everyday life, in everything we see around us, in everything that grows and blooms, everything that lives and moves, in our own body and all its cells and tissues. We don't realize how He says "let there be" in each and every new moment and how dependent we are on His words of creation...

C: Oh, come, let us bow down and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord, our Maker.

P: For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

All: 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

P: Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C: Oh, come, let us worship him.

Please be seated.

PSALM 103

L: Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*
and all that is within me,
bless his | holy name!
Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*
and forget not all his | benefits,

**C: who forgives all your in- | iquity,*
who heals all your dis- | eases,
who redeems your life | from the pit,*
who crowns you with steadfast love and | mercy,**

L: who satisfies | you with good*
so that your youth is renewed like the | eagle's.
The LORD works | righteousness*
and justice for all who | are oppressed.

**C: He made known his ways to | Moses,*
his acts to the people of | Israel.
The LORD is merciful and | gracious,*
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.**

L: He will not | always chide,*
nor will he keep his anger for- | ever.

He does not deal with us according | to our sins,*
nor repay us according to our in- | iquities.

**C: For as high as the heavens are a- | bove the earth,*
so great is his steadfast love toward those who | fear him;
as far as the east is | from the west,*
so far does he remove our transgres- | sions from us.**

**L: As a father shows compassion to his | children,*
so the LORD shows compassion to those who | fear him.
For he | knows our frame;*
he remembers that | we are dust.**

**C: As for man, his days | are like grass;*
he flourishes like a flower | of the field;
for the wind passes over it, and | it is gone,*
and its place knows | it no more.**

**L: But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to ever-
lasting on those who | fear him,*
and his righteousness to children's | children,
to those who keep his | covenant*
and remember to do his com- | mandments.**

**C: The LORD has established his throne in the | heavens,*
and his kingdom rules | over all.
Bless the LORD, O you his | angels,*
you mighty ones who do his word,
obeying the voice | of his word!**

**L: Bless the LORD, | all his hosts,*
his ministers, who | do his will!
Bless the LORD, all his works,
in all places of his do- | minion.*
Bless the LORD, | O my soul!**

*... And least
of all can we
imagine how,
in the middle
of creation,
there's an on-
going struggle
between the
Creator and
the destroyer,
where only
God's constant
help and
mercy can save
us from de-
struction.
Knowing God
is having a
well of thanks-
giving that
never runs
dry.*

*~ Bo Giertz,
To Live
with Christ,
A.D. 1974*

The use of Christ's word in this kind of praise-full proclamation accomplishes something wonderful in us. As we sing the song of praise about Jesus, or even hear it sung, that song sings God's grace into us. It brings the Holy Spirit into our hearts and strengthens our faith in him; it fills us with the Holy Spirit (Eph 5:18-20). Once the word of grace has sung itself into our hearts in a song of praise, that Spirit-filled word pervades our bodies with all their senses . . . It sings Christ and his Holy Spirit into us . . .

PSALM PRAYER

- P: Lord, you have compassion for the sinner, as a father has compassion for his children. Heal the weakness of your people and save us from everlasting death, that with the saints and angels we may praise and glorify you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.
- C: **Amen**

PSALM 148

- L: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!
- C: **Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts!**
- L: Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars!
- C: **Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**
- L: Let them praise the name of the LORD! For he commanded and they were created.
- C: **And he established them forever and ever; he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.**
- L: Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps,
- C: **fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling his word!**
- L: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!
- C: **Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds!**
- L: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
- C: **Young men and maidens together, old men and children!**
- L: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted;
- C: **his majesty is above earth and heaven.**

L: He has raised up a horn for his people,
 C: **praise for all his saints, for the people of Israel who are near to him. Praise the LORD!**

PSALM PRAYER

P: God Most High, by your Word you created a wondrous universe, and through you Spirit you breathed into it the breath of life. Accept creation's hymn of praise from our lips, and let the praise that is sung in heaven resound in the heart of every creature on earth, to the glory of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

PSALM 67

... Amanda Husberg

Choir: Antiphon

O Ho - ly One, may You re - ceive a
 har - vest of praise from all the world.

Choir: Bless us, O God, and smile on us,
 So that the world sees who You are,
 So that the world knows how You save.
 Bless us, O God, and smile on us.

All: Antiphon

Choir: Nations may sing to You for joy,
 Because Your justice is for all,
 Because Your guidance is for all.
 Nations may sing to You for joy,

All: Antiphon

... It fills us with joy and wonder, with awe and gratitude, with devotion and delight. As it sings of Christ, it changes us. It turns critics and cynics into thank-givers and praise singers, people whose hearts are so full of God's goodness that they overflow with thanksgiving and praise. So once the word of grace has been sung into our hearts, it dwells there and produces a never-ending song of praise to God the Father.
 ~ Pr. John Kleinig,
 "What's the Use of Praising God?"
 p. 10

Choir: Now is the harvest, we are blessed;
May God continue blessing us,
May all the earth give praise to God.
Now is the harvest, we are blessed.

All: Antiphon

PSALM PRAYER

P: Father, through your power the earth has brought forth its noblest fruit, the tree of the cross. Unite all people in its embrace, and feed them with its fruit, everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

OFFICE HYMN

“For the Fruits of His Creation”

... LSB #894

FIRST LESSON Deuteronomy 26:1-11

¹“When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. ³And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, ‘I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our fathers to give us.’ ⁴Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God.⁵“And you shall make response before the LORD your God, ‘A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. ⁶And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor. ⁷Then we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty

hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. ⁹And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O LORD, have given me.' And you shall set it down before the LORD your God and worship before the LORD your God. ¹¹And you shall rejoice in all the good that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Look at the World"

... John Rutter

SECOND LESSON Luke 12:13-21

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." ¹⁶And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' ¹⁸And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

P: The Word of the Lord.

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

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
~ *Philippians 4:6-7*

*Since we have access to the presence of God the Father, the heavenly King, we reign with Christ by praying for the world and its citizens....We overcome evil and the powers of darkness in our environment as we use our access to God's grace to claim His help for those who need the gift of divine aid.
~John W. Kleinig, 2006 A.D.*

HYMN

"Sing to the Lord of Harvest"

... LSB #893

SERMON "The Sacrifice of Thanksgiving"

HYMN

"How Can I Thank You, Lord"

... LSB #703

Please kneel.

PRAYERS

P: O Lord, I cry to you for help.

C: **In the morning my prayer comes before you.**

P: Give me the joy of your saving help again,

C: **and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

P: Let my mouth be full of your praise

C: **and your glory all the day long.**

P: Every day will I praise you,

C: **and praise your name forever and ever.**

P: Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,

C: **O God of our salvation, O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far away.**

P: Bless the Lord, O my soul,

C: **and all that is within me, bless his holy name.**

P: He redeems my life from the grave,

C: **and crowns me with mercy and lovingkindness.**

P: Lord, hear my prayer,

C: **and let my cry come before you.**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray . . .

Each prayer ends with "through Jesus Christ, our Lord," to which the congregation responds, "Amen".

P: I thank you, my heavenly Father,

C: **through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that you would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please you. For into your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray,

C: **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**

Please stand.

BENEDICAMUS

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C: **Amen**

**A Prayer
As You Go**

Lord, let me
hunger
enough that
I not forget
the world's
hunger.

Lord, let me
hunger
enough that
I may have
bread to
share. Lord
let me hun-
ger enough
that I may
long for
Bread of
Heaven.

Lord, let me
hunger
enough that
I may be
filled. But, O
Lord, let me
hunger so
much that I
seek after
that which is
not bread,
nor try to
live by
bread alone.
Amen.

~ *Banquet of
Praise*

CLOSING HYMN

"Now Thank We All Our God"

... LSB #895

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

"Now Thank We All Our God"

... J.S. Bach; arr. Sigfrid Karg-Elert

+ Soli Deo Gloria +
To God alone be glory

Serving at Worship

Presiding: The Rev. Dr. Steven K. Gjerde

Organist: Kantor Irene Beethe

Trumpet: Chad Premeau

Choir: The Zion Kantorei

Radio Announcer: Dick Ames

Lector: Mark Gehrke

Elder: Bruce Muschinske

Altar Guild: Anna Mae Zeinemann

Acknowledgements

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Announcements are on pages 14 and 15.

The Season of Advent in 2022 . . .

... begins at sundown on November 26, and ends with sundown on Saturday, December 24. Advent worship prepares us to welcome the King into our homes and hearts.

Firelight Devotions: Sundays in Advent (4:30 PM)

November 27, December 4, 11, & 18

Weather permitting, Zion will gather on Luther Square each Sunday evening in Advent for "Prayer on the Square":

4:20 PM: Informal Christmas Caroling

4:30 PM: Advent Prayer Service
(25-30 Minutes)

Warm drinks (cider and hot chocolate) will be served, courtesy of the Board of Elders. Come, help "light the way" of Advent as we prepare for the Prince of Peace.

Christmas and New Year Schedule

Christmas Eve (Saturday, December 24)

3:00 PM: Simplified Lessons and Carols

5:00 PM: Festival of Lesson and Carols

8:00 PM: Holy Communion (Broadcast: WSAU)

Christmas Day (Sunday, December 25)

9:00 AM: Holy Communion (Broadcast: WSAU)

No 11:00 AM Service

New Year's Eve (Saturday, December 31)

5:15 PM: Holy Communion

First Sunday after Christmas (Sunday, January 1)

9 & 11 AM: Holy Communion (Broadcast: WSAU)

THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL HOMEMADE CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE

When: Saturday, December 3

Where: Zion's Church Hall

Time: 9 a.m. to noon (or until sold out)

Price: \$12.00 per pound

Bakers: You can help bake at church or home. All are welcome!

Buyers: Be sure to tell your relatives and friends.

Decorators: Help us decorate the cookies.

Other Helpers: Take cookies from pans, pack for storage, make up trays of cookies to sell, fold boxes, etc.

We will bake and decorate cookies in the church kitchen and hall, Monday through Friday, November 28 - 30 and December 1, & 2, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. each day. The success of the cookie sale will depend on how many people volunteer. There are never too many helpers – there is always something to do! Please join us! We need you to come and help anytime you can.

- Baking at home? Then bring your cookies to the church hall on Friday, December 2, or before 9 a.m. on Saturday, December 3.
- Cookie Painting will be done in the church hall on Tuesday, November 29 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. We need volunteers to paint the frosted, cut-out cookies. All supplies will be provided.
- Extra help is needed on Friday, December 2 for pre-packaging cookies. Come to the church hall at 1:00 p.m.
- At the sale, there will be pre-packaged trays of cookies for sale, as well as trays of cookies for you to choose your own. This year we ask you to bring your own containers to fill with cookies, if possible. We will make sure to weigh them before you fill them. If you wish to make a cash donation to help defray the cost of the boxes, gloves, paper liners, trays, ingredients, etc., please mark your envelope "Cookie Sale."

If you have any questions, contact Phyllis Bliese, 715-675-2630.

Zion Lutheran Church

Sixth and Grant Streets, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

Those who trust in the Lord shall be like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever. (Psalm 125:1)

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Senior Pastor Steven K. Gjerde
Associate Pastor Christopher S. Johnson
Kantor Irene Beethe
Office Manager Jessica G. Ray
Custodian Cody Augustine
Deployed Chaplain Joseph C. Pinzl
Pastor Emeritus Theodore B. Gulhaugen

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Host of the Wausau Lutheran Hour
Sundays, 9:00 am, WSAU Radio 550AM (or
click "Listen Live" at www.wsau.com)

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