

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE
NOVEMBER 22, 2020 7:00 PM

O give *thanks*
unto the LORD, for he is good;
for his mercy endures forever.
Psalms 107:1 (KJV)

We will gather together to witness to all that God has done for us and to proclaim our gratitude and praise. You are invited to:

- **Make a short video or audio recording of all that you are grateful for. Send it to Bonnie Pomeroy (Bpomeroy333@gmail.com), who will create a video for our worship together.**
- **If you would rather simply speak at the worship service, please let Pastor Nancy know (youngnancy501@gmail.com, 989-430-2185)**

Zoom link: Nancy Young is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Thanksgiving worship service

Time: Nov 22, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81211178853?pwd=SHFhNVpNMUdJRWdBTIBWYnFCM2h4UT09>

Meeting ID: 812 1117 8853

Passcode: 273203

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81211178853?pwd=SHFhNVpNMUdJRWdBTIBWYnFCM2h4UT09>

PRELUDE

“We Gather Together”

Netherlands Folk Hymn

Arranged by Randall Hartsell

CALL TO WORSHIP (*From The Presbyterian Church of Canada*)

In deep gratitude we come to worship God.

We recognize God as the source of all goodness.

All good gifts come from the Spirit of God:

love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, gentleness are all of God.

We come with grateful hearts, not for things, but for who God is.

We gather to show our gratitude in song and prayer.

HYMN 336

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.

**Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
Ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
So from the beginning the fight we were winning;
Thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glory be thine!**

**We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
And pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!**

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE *(Sarah Buteux.)*

**O Lord, as we prepare to celebrate and give thanks this year,
may we find it in our hearts to be grateful no matter what.
May we praise you for what we can do
and praise you in spite of what we can't.
May we thank you for what is and what isn't,
for what is going well and for what is not.
May we thank you for what brings us joy
and even for that which brings us grief,
for if our grief testifies to anything,
it testifies to the depths of our love.
Bless us and keep us, dear God, we pray,
and turn our hearts ever and always
toward your all encompassing light,
you who are our creator and savior,
our redeemer and friend. Amen and amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Thankful”

Words & Music by David Foster, Carole Bayer, and Richard Page

SCRIPTURE READINGS

DEUTERONOMY 28:1-14

28 If you will only obey the LORD your God, by diligently observing all his commandments that I am commanding you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth; ² all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the LORD your God:

³ Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field.

⁴ Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb, the fruit of your ground, and the fruit of your livestock, both the increase of your cattle and the issue of your flock.

⁵ Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.

⁶ Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out.

⁷ The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before you; they shall come out against you one way, and flee before you seven

ways. ⁸ The LORD will command the blessing upon you in your barns, and in all that you undertake; he will bless you in the land that the LORD your God is giving

you. ⁹ The LORD will establish you as his holy people, as he has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of the LORD your God and walk in his ways. ¹⁰ All the peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they shall be afraid of you. ¹¹ The LORD will make you abound in prosperity, in the fruit of your womb, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your ground in the land that the LORD swore to your ancestors to give you. ¹² The LORD will open for you his rich storehouse, the heavens, to give the rain of your land in its season and to bless all your undertakings. You will lend to many nations, but you will not borrow. ¹³ The LORD will make you the head, and not the tail; you shall be only at the top, and not at the bottom—if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I am commanding you today, by diligently observing them, ¹⁴ and if you do not turn aside from any of the words that I am commanding you today, either to the right or to the left, following other gods to serve them.

HYMN 712 AS THOSE OF OLD THEIR FIRSTFRUITS BROUGHT
As those of old their first fruits brought of vineyard, flock, and field
To God, the giver of all good, the source of bounteous yield,
So we today our first fruits bring, the wealth of this good land:
Of farm and market, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.

A world in need now summons us to labor, love, and give,
To make our life an offering that all may truly live.
The church of Christ is calling us to make the dream come true:
A world redeemed by Christ like, love, all life in Christ made new.

In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today,
To serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.
O God who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your Son,
Help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.

2 CORINTHIANS 9.6 - 14

⁶ The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And 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. ⁹ As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness^[b] endures forever."

¹⁰ He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.^[c] ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; ¹² for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. ¹³ Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, ¹⁴ while they long for you

and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

HYMN 644 GIVE THANKS, O CHRISTIAN PEOPLE

**Give thanks, O Christian people, for workers of our day
Who head the call to service and make it their life's way
To go to feed the hungry, to tend to those in need,
To work for equal justice, till all God's folk are freed.**

**Give thanks, O Christian people, for leaders of our years
Who live to share with others our joy when Christ appears,
To teach the ones who seek light to guide the faltering feet.
To lead the followers forward our living Lord to meet.**

**Give thanks, O Christian people, for all who love the Lord,
Who live each day believing in God's eternal Word:
To share Christ's love in living, to witness with each deed,
To use the talents given to plant the gospel seed.**

**Give thanks, O Christian people, for lie in fellowship
With all who trust our savior their serving to equip:
To ease another's burdens, to cope in joy and stress,
To magnify God's message and Christ's great love confess.**

TESTIMONIES OF GRATITUDE

HYMN 647 GIVE THANKS

**Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.**

**And now let the weak say, "We are strong";
Let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"**

**And now let the weak say, "We are strong";
Let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"
Give thanks. Give thanks.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(Inspired by 2 Corinthians 9:6 from Giving in Grace: Liturgical Services – Matthew.)*

Lord, in your word you teach us
that sparse sowing means meager reaping;
give us generous hearts as we respond to your love.
Lord, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Lord, you teach us that a generous heart
produces a bountiful harvest;
pour your love within us.
Lord, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Lord, you teach us to pray for those who govern us;
bless all in positions of authority
who take decisions for the nations of your world.
Lord, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Lord, you teach us to bring your healing
to the sick and suffering;
may your healing be upon those
whom we name before you now ...
Lord, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

HYMN 643 NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD
Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hat done, in whom this world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms, hat blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With every joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
To Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
The one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
The God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

BLESSING *(Pastor Joe Sherer pastor of the Mount Joy Mennonite Church)*
May the Lord bless you and keep you,
May He make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the broad expanse of God's love
and the abundance of His riches in glory,
shape your perspective on your own life and needs,
including those things which disappoint you.

May the eyes of your heart be open
to all the blessings which surround you;
may this awareness produce a harvest of generosity in your spirit.

May thankfulness rise up within you,
not just during this short season, but day after day,
from the early morning watch until you retire for the night.

May your prayers reflect gratitude,
while also acknowledging the needs of others
whose situations are so drastically different.

May thoughts of Jesus fill your mind,
and hunger for God drive your soul,
and love for Lord guide your speech and your actions.

And finally, may the grace, peace, and love of the triune God,
protect, defend, and empower you
to run with perseverance the race marked out for you.

Amen.

POSTLUDE

“An Irish Blessing”

Irish Traditional
Arranged by Carsten Gerlitz

O give
thanks
unto the LORD, for he is good;
for his mercy endures forever.

Pslam 107:1 (KJV) **0**