

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

400 Barclay Avenue Forest Hills, PA 15221
412-271-7173 www.christlutheranfh.org

The Reverend Ronald Breight	Pastor
The Reverend Reholma McCants	Pastor Emeritus
Vincent Mroz	Vicar
Douglas Skalka	Organist
Glenn Filler	Worship Assistant
Acolyte	Alexa Kocher

Missionaries: The Rev. Dr. Jonathan and Deaconess Cheryl Naumann
Sunday bulletins, news, puzzles, and sermons are available on our website listed above. Services are live-streamed on our Facebook page.

+++++

Thanksgiving Service

November 24, 2021

TO OUR GUESTS

A special welcome to our visitors – please sign our guest book. If you do not have a regular place to share in the blessing of God, we'd like you to know that there is a special place here for you.

AS WE GATHER

This national day of Thanksgiving is a great tradition when all citizens are urged to give thanks to God for His blessings to our nation. How true it is when we respond to the desire to "Get rich quick" with "Count your blessings!" God's grace be to all who are gathered here this morning to offer God their heartfelt thanks and praise for all His good gifts which make us rich in His blessings.

PRELUDE

We Gather Together

Mary McDonald

OPENING HYMN

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Hymnal p. 892

Come, ye thankful people, come; Raise the song of harvest home.

All be safely gathered in Ere the winter storms begin;

God, our maker, doth provide For our wants to be supplied.

Come to God's own temple, come; Raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field, Fruit unto His praise to yield.

Wheat and tares together sown, Unto joy or sorrow grown.

First the blade and then the ear, Then the full corn shall appear.

Lord of harvest, grant that we Wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come And shall take His harvest home,

From His field shall in that day All offenses purge away,

Give His angels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast

**But the fruitful ears to store In His garner evermore Even so, Lord, quickly
come To Your final harvest home.**

Gather Thou Thy people in, Free from sorrow, free from sin,

There, forever purified, In Thy garner to abide.

Come, with all Thine angels, come, Raise the glorious harvest home.

Text and music: Public Domain

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

INTROIT

P: I will sing to the Lord all my life;

C: I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

P: How many are Your works, O Lord!

C: In wisdom You made them all; The earth is full of Your creatures.

P: These all look to You

C: to give them their food at the proper time.

P: When You send Your Spirit, they are created,

C: and You renew the face of the Earth.

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

C: and to the Holy Spirit;

P: as it was in the beginning,

C: is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P: I will sing to the Lord all my life;

C: I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Your mercies are new every morning and You graciously provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 8:1-10

L: The first reading is from chapter eight of Deuteronomy.

In the good land remember God's fatherly care.

"The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers. And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that He might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not. And He humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man

lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the Lord your God disciplines you. So you shall keep the commandments of the Lord your God by walking in His ways and by fearing Him. For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the Lord your God for the good land He has given you.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Sing to the Lord of Harvest (*based on Psalm 65*) Hymnal p. 893

**Sing to the Lord of harvest, Sing songs of love and praise;
With joyful hearts and voices Your alleluia raise.
By Him the rolling seasons In fruitful order move;
Sing to the Lord of harvest A joyous song of love.**

**God makes the clouds rain goodness, The deserts bloom and spring,
The hills leap up in gladness, The valleys laugh and sing.
God fills them with His fullness, All things with large increase;
He crowns the year with blessing, With plenty and with peace.**

**Bring to this sacred altar The gifts His goodness gave,
The golden sheaves of harvest, The souls Christ died to save.
Your hearts lay down before Him When at His feet you fall,
And with your lives adore Him Who gave His life for all.**

Text and music: public domain. Setting©1954 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014542.
Music: Public domain.

L: The second reading is from chapter four of Philippians.

God will supply every need.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me. Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Holy Gospel is according to St. Luke, chapter seventeen.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

The thankful, foreign, cleansed leper

On the way to Jerusalem He was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as He entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

Following the reading...

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE APOSTLES' CREED¹

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Now Thank We All Our God

Hymnal p. 895

Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love And still is ours today.

Oh, may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us
And keep us in His grace And guide us when perplexed
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!

All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God, Who earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.

Text and music: Public Domain

SERMON²

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

VOLUNTARY

Grant Peace, We Pray, in Mercy, Lord

Keith Kolander

OFFERING HYMN

Hymnal p. 789

Praise and Thanksgiving

Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer
For all things living, created good:
Harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
Hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.

Bless, Lord, the labor we bring to serve You
That with our neighbor we may be fed.
Sowing or tilling, we would work with You,
Harvesting, milling for daily bread.

**Father, providing food for Your children,
By Your wise guiding teach us to share
One with another, so that, rejoicing
With us, all others may know Your care.**

Text: c. 1987 Oxford University Press. Used by permission. Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014542. Music: Public domain.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: In thanksgiving for all that we receive from the Lord's hand, let us pray for the church, for the world, and for all people, trusting in God's abundant provision for our needs.

For the church, that in thankfulness to God for the gifts of Word, Baptism and Holy Communion, we may walk in His ways, fear Him, and bless Him. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: For our President, Congress, state and local leaders, that this time of national thanksgiving may bring a renewed sense of responsibility to use all of our resources wisely, as good stewards of the gifts of God. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: For those who serve in our armed forces and are far away from home; for our enemies; and for innocent civilians in harm's way; that through the death and resurrection of Christ all may come to know and experience the peace which surpasses understanding. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: For farmers, ranchers, and all agricultural workers, that the fruit of their labors may be a blessing to them and to all for whom they provide nourishment. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: For the poor, that both church and nation may find ways to provide for their needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: For the sick, the convalescing, and the dying, that they find comfort and hope in God's promise to supply every need according to the glorious riches of Christ Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: For all who travel, especially for families who gather together, that their homecomings may be joyful. For the lonely and depressed that they find peace in God's promise never to leave us nor forsake us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: For this congregation, that giving thanks for all of God's blessings to us, we may lead peaceful and quiet lives, godly and dignified in every way. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: To our God and Father, who supplies every need according to his riches in Christ Jesus by the Holy Spirit, be glory forever and ever.

C: Amen.

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.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with His favor and (†) give you His peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Praise to God, Immortal Praise

The Lutheran Hymnal #572

Praise to God, immortal praise, for the love that crowns our days;
Bounteous Source of every joy, let Thy praise our tongues employ,
All to Thee, our God, we owe, source whence all our blessings flow.

All the plenty summer pours; autumn's rich, o'erflowing stores;
Flocks that whiten all the plain; yellow sheaves of ripened grain,
Lord, for these our souls shall raise grateful vows and solemn praise.

Peace, prosperity, and health, private bliss, and public wealth,
Knowledge with its gladdening streams, true religion's holier beams,
Lord, for these our souls shall raise grateful vows and solemn praise.

As Thy prosp'ring hand hath blest, may we give Thee all our best
And by deeds of kindly love for Thy mercies grateful prove,
Singing thus through all our days praise to God, immortal praise.

Text and music: Public Domain

POSTLUDE

Let All Give Thanks and Praise

Richard A. Williamson

¹*It is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.*
Romans 10:10. Our response to the Word of God that has just been read is our confession of faith in the one, true, triune God.

²Martin Luther teaches us about hearing the Word: "Know, therefore, that you must be concerned not only about hearing, but also about learning and retaining it in memory, and do not think that it is optional with you or of no great importance, but that it is God's commandment, who will require of you how you have heard, learned, and honored His Word." (Large Catechism) *Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!* Luke 11:28

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ONLINE VIEWERS

For those worshipping with us online and those sheltering in place, we encourage you to bring your tithes and offerings to the church office open T-F mornings from 9-12, or mail your check in to church, or for those who bank online, simply instruct your bank to send us a check in the mail.

We all owe God our tithes and offerings and we encourage everyone to

continue in the joy that is found in faithful financial stewardship. Thank you.

HOME COMMUNION: Christ Lutheran is providing Home Communion Packages with individually wrapped wafers and wine cups. These packages are to be distributed to those who are institutionalized or remain at home on Sundays. Home communions are available after worship and at the church office Tuesday through Friday 9am-Noon. Please write on the clipboard to whom you are taking communion.

Christ Lutheran Church is a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.