



# *Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church*



***A Traditional, Liturgical, Biblical congregation in the Chicago region  
Committed to ministering to sinners with the forgiving presence  
of Jesus Christ.***

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## *The Day of Thanksgiving*

### *Office of Vespers*

The original thanksgiving observance was held by the Pilgrim settlers in Massachusetts during their second winter in America in December 1621. These Pilgrims, seeking religious freedom in America, gave thanks to God for His provision for providing them land, friendly Native Americans, religious freedom, God's provision of an interpreter to the Native Americans in Squanto and for the 80 Native Americans or more that attended. Worship was a significant element of this first Thanksgiving. Three days were spent in feasting, prayer, sermons, and songs of praise.

Since then, Thanksgiving has been observed as a day to give thanks to God for His gracious and sufficient provision. President Abraham Lincoln officially set aside the last Thursday of November, in 1863, "as a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father."

For Christians, the concept of Thanksgiving is found solely in the Word of God. We discover there that individuals offered up sacrifices out of gratitude in the book of Genesis. The Israelites sang a song of thanksgiving as they were delivered from Pharaoh's army after the crossing of the Red Sea. Later, the Mosaic Law set aside three times each year when the Israelites were to gather together. All three of these times, The Feast of the Passover, Pentecost, and The Feast of Tabernacles involved thanksgiving for God's provision and grace. Also, the book of Psalms is overflowing with songs of thanksgiving.

Of all of God's gifts, the greatest one He has given is the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ. Through His life, suffering, death, and resurrection he has forgiven the sins of the world!" (2 Corinthians 5:15). Through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, the Triune God has made us his children by declaring us righteous! God continues to provide us with forgiveness, life and salvation, through His holy Word and Jesus' very own body and blood. Let us all give thanks to God, for the gift of His Son, the Gift which meets our greatest need. As St. Paul adamantly proclaims, "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!" (2 Corinthians 9:15).

## Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

LSB 892



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come; Raise the song of har-vest home.  
2 All the world is God's own field, Fruit un-to His praise to yield;  
3 For the Lord, our God, shall come And shall take His har-vest home,  
4 E-ven so, Lord, quick-ly come To Thy fi-nal har-vest home;



All be safe-ly gath-ered in Ere the win-ter storms be-gin;  
Wheat and tares to-geth-er sown, Un-to joy or sor-row grown.  
From His field shall in that day All of-fens-es purge a-way,  
Gath-er Thou Thy peo-ple in, Free from sor-row, free from sin,



God, our mak-er, doth pro-vide For our wants to be sup-plied.  
First the blade and then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap-pear.  
Give His an-gels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,  
There, for-ev-er pu-ri-fied, In Thy gar-ner to a-bide:



Come to God's own tem-ple, come; Raise the song of har-vest home.  
Lord of har-vest, grant that we Whole-some grain and pure may be.  
But the fruit-ful ears to store In His gar-ner ev-er-more.  
Come with all Thine an-gels, come, Raise the glo-rious har-vest home.

*Stand*

## Common Versicles

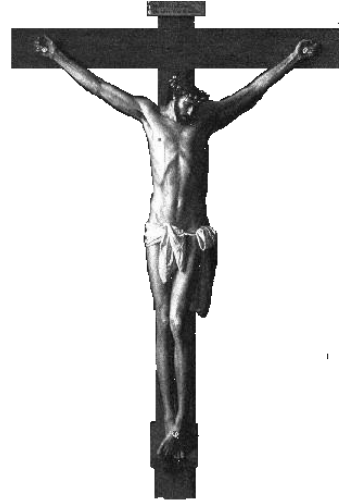
LSB 229

- L** O Lord, open my lips,
- C** (Sung) **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**
- L** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
- C** (Sung) **make haste to help me, O Lord.**
- C** (Sung) **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.  
Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.**

## Psalmody

Psalm 67

- A** May God be gracious to us and | bless us\*  
and make his face to shine up- | on us,
- C** **that your way may be | known on earth,\***  
**your saving power among all | nations.**
- C** **Let the peoples praise you, | O God;\***  
**let all the peoples | praise you!**
- C** **Let the nations be glad and | sing for joy,\***  
**for you judge the peoples with equity**  
**and guide the nations up- | on earth.**
- A** May God be gracious to us and | bless us\*  
and make his face to shine up- | on us,
- C** **Let the peoples praise you, | O God;\***  
**let all the peoples | praise you!**
- C** **The earth has yielded its | increase;\***  
**God, our God, shall | bless us.**
- C** **God shall | bless us;\***  
**let all the ends of the earth | fear him!**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**
- A** May God be gracious to us and | bless us\*  
and make his face to shine up- | on us,



*Sit*

Praise the LORD! Oh  
give thanks to the  
LORD, for He is good,  
for His steadfast love  
endures forever!

## 895 Now Thank We All Our God

### CHOIR SINGS STANZA 2



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voice,  
2 Oh, may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,  
△ 3 All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given,



Who wondrous things has done, In whom His world rejoices;  
With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us  
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven,



Who from our mothers' arms Has blest us on our way  
And keep us in His grace And guide us when perplexed  
The one eternal God, Whom earth and heav'n adore;



With countless gifts of love And still is ours to-day.  
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!  
For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.

Text and tune: Public domain

## The Holy Scriptures

**Deuteronomy 8:1-10** "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.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Philippians 4:6-20** 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.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Luke 17:11-19** 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."

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

# Responsory

## Common

*Verse* *To Refrain*

**L** 1 Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth.  
2 Unite my heart to fear Your name that I may walk in Your truth.  
3 Glory be to the  
Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.

**C** Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

## Sermon

*Stand*

## Canticle

### Antiphon (Common)

**L** Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,  
**C** and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

### Magnificat

**C** My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Sav-ior;  
**I** for He has re-gard - ed the lowliness of His hand-maid - en.  
**II** For be - hold, from this day all generations will call me bless - ed.



I For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;



II and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.



I He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the



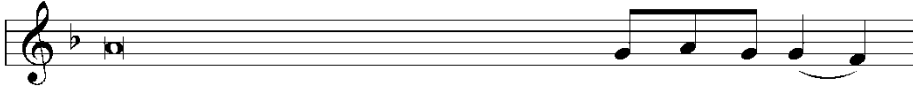
imagination of their hearts. II He has cast down the



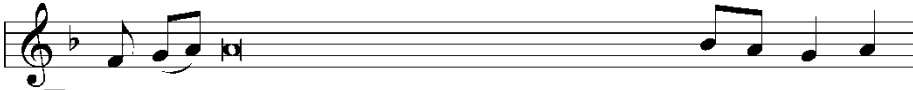
mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.



I He has filled the hungry with good things,



and the rich He has sent empty away.



II He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy



as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.



Glo-ry 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. A-men.



*Sit*

## Offering

## Prayer

*Kneel/Stand*

## Kyrie



**C** Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

## 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.



## Collects



**L** O Lord, hear my prayer.



**C** And let my cry come to You.

## Collect of the Day

**P** O Lord, almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may live and abide forever in Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen

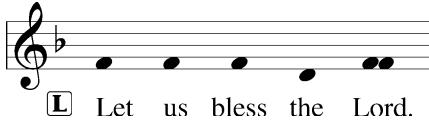
## Additional Collects of Intercession and Thanksgiving

### Collect for Peace

**P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



### Benedicamus



## Benediction



**P** The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God  
**L** The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.  
and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with us all.



**C** A - men.

## 785 We Praise You, O God



1 We praise You, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;  
2 We wor - ship You, God of our fa - thers, we bless You;  
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



In grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.  
Through tri - al and tem - pest our guide You have been.  
And glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore You, we kneel and a - dore You;  
When per - ils o'er - take us, You will not for - sake us,  
With You, Lord, be - side us, Your strong arm will guide us.



We bless Your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.  
And with Your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.  
To You, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

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Many of our homes feature a cornucopia as part of our traditional Thanksgiving decorations. The curved goat's horn overflowing with fruit and ears of grain serves as both a celebration of our abundance and an encouragement to thank God for it. Likewise, as the Scriptures speak of thanksgiving, they overflow with both celebration of God's gifts and encouragement to thank Him for them. The cornucopia invites us to: "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good" (Ps. 136:1).

### **A Thanksgiving Prayer**

Lord, behold our family here assembled. We thank Thee for this place in which we dwell; for the love that unites us; for the peace accorded us this day; for the hope which we expect the morrow; for the health, the work, the food, and the bright skies that make our lives delightful; for our friends in all parts of the earth, and our friendly helpers in this land.

Let peace abound in our small company. Purge out of every heart the lurking grudge. Give us grace and strength to forbear and to persevere. Offenders ourselves, give us the grace to accept and to forgive offenders. Forgetful ourselves, help us to bear cheerfully the forgetfulness of others.

Give us courage and joy and a quiet mind. Spare to us our friends; soften to us our enemies. Bless us, if it may be, in all our innocent endeavors. If it may not, give us the strength to encounter that which is to come, that we be brave in peril, constant in tribulation, temperate in wrath, and in all changes of fortune, and down to the gates of death, loyal and loving one to another.

As the clay to the potter, as the windmill to the wind, as children of their sires, we beseech of Thee this help and mercy for Christ's sake. Amen.

#### **Acknowledgments**

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