

DAY OF THANKSGIVING

November 23, 2023

Grateful
Thankful
blessed

Calvary Lutheran Church
9807 Church Road
Dallas, TX 75238 + 214-348-5567
www.calvarydallas.org



Order of Service for
DAY OF THANKSGIVING

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise!

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good.

His love endures forever.

To him alone who does great wonders,

His love endures forever.

To the One who remembered us in our low estate and freed us from our enemies.

His love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of heaven.

His love endures forever.

[Psalm 139:1, 4, 23-24, 26]

DEVOTION – THE LORD GIVES US ENOUGH TO HAVE LEFTOVERS!

2 Kings 4:38-44

CONFESSION

1 John 1:8-9

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.

For faithless worrying and selfish pride,

For sins of habit and sins of choice,

For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,

You should cast me away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me for Jesus' sake.

ABSOLUTION

John 20:21-23

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GIVE THANKS FOR...

...GOD'S WORD

Psalm 119:105

God's Word is the guide for our lives, written for us to see clearly how God would have us live. Not only that, but this Word is also the precious means by which God has revealed his perfect plan to us, the plan that sent his Son, the plan that saved sinners! **God's love endures forever!**

PSALM 119:105 Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

HYMN

862 – Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word (st. 1)



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your Word; curb those who
by de - ceit or sword would seek to o - ver - throw your
Son and to de - stroy what he has done.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God our Father, **your love endures forever** and 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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

...ALL OF CREATION

Genesis 1:29-31

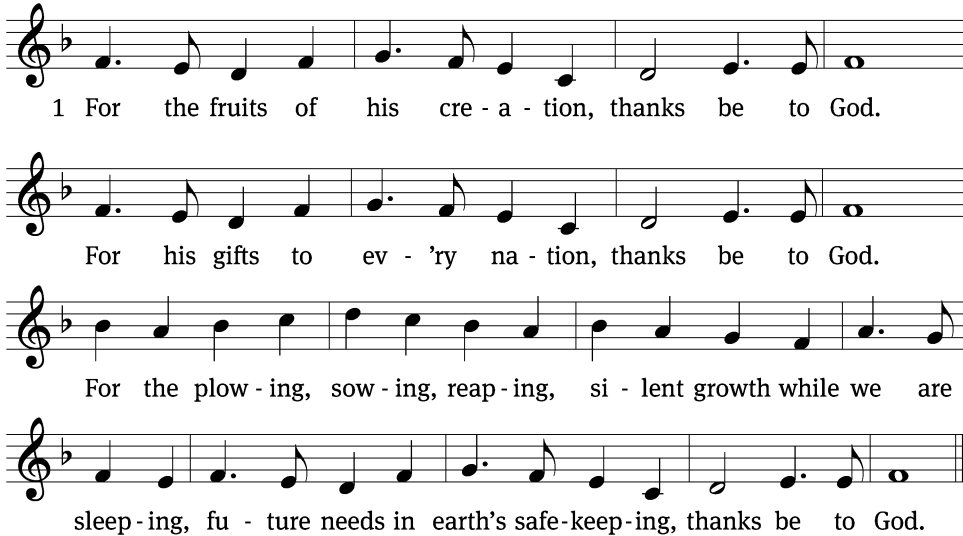
After each day of creation, God looked at what he had made “and it was good,” except for the sixth day. After this day, God saw that his creation was “very good”. Everything in the universe was well-designed and in harmony with the rest of creation. **God's love endures forever!**

GENESIS 1:29 Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰ And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.

³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

HYMN

506 – For the Fruits of His Creation (st. 1)



1 For the fruits of his cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
For his gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are
sleep - ing, fu - ture needs in earth's safe-keep - ing, thanks be to God.

...OUR GOVERNMENT AND NATION

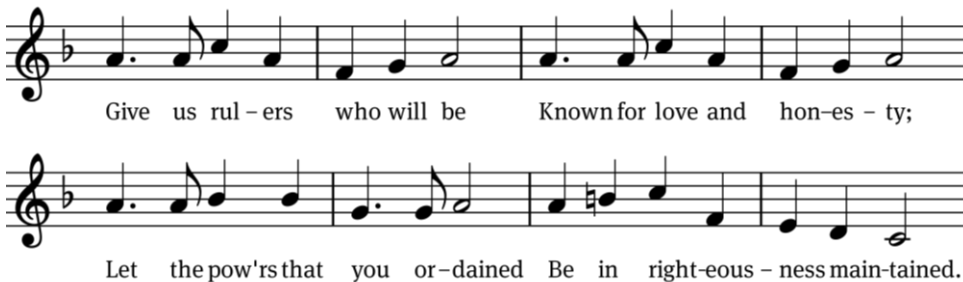
Romans 13:6-7

Those who serve in government are God's representatives. They keep civil order by punishing those who do wrong and rewarding those who do right. Even when governments are less than godly, as God's representatives they still deserve our honor and respect. God's love endures forever!

ROMANS 13:6 This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. ⁷ Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

HYMN

Christ, by Heavenly Hosts Adored (st. 3) [Tune: St. George's, Windsor]



Give us rul - ers who will be Known for love and hon - es - ty;
Let the pow'rs that you or - dained Be in right - eous - ness main - tained.

In the peo-ple's hearts in - crease Love of pi - e - ty and peace.

Thus u - nit - ed, we shall stand One wide, free, and hap - py land.

...OUR CHURCH BODY AND CONGREGATION

Psalm 84:1-2, 10

*As Christians, our hearts “yearn for the courts of the LORD.” We love to gather with fellow believers, and especially those who hold to a common confession. We gather as congregations (Latin for “gathered together”), and congregations gather as synods (Greek for “walking together”) to serve together as “doorkeepers in the house of God.” **God’s love endures forever!***

PSALM 84:1 How lovely is your dwelling place,

Lord Almighty!

² My soul yearns, even faints,

for the courts of the Lord;

my heart and my flesh cry out

for the living God...

...¹⁰ Better is one day in your courts

than a thousand elsewhere;

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God

than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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

For Many Years, O God of Grace (st. 1) [Tune: Wie Schon Leuchtet]



For man - y years, O God of grace.

This church has been your dwell - ing place

And we your con - gre - ga - tion. Up - on the pre - cious cor - ner - stone

Our faith is built, and Christ a - lone

Is still our one foun - da - tion. To - day We pray:

Let us greet you, Lord and meet you Here with sing - ing.

All our prais - es to you bring - ing.

...CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

John 21:15-17

*This selection has both law and gospel nestled so closely together they're nearly imperceptible. Jesus' command to "Feed my lambs" and "Take care of my sheep" is law, but it is motivated by a heart filled with love in the risen Lord Jesus. God does this same thing for us as we seek to undertake the blessed task of educating his flock! There is a command there, but it is a command based on the love of Christ. **God's love endures forever!***

JOHN 21:15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

"Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

¹⁶ Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

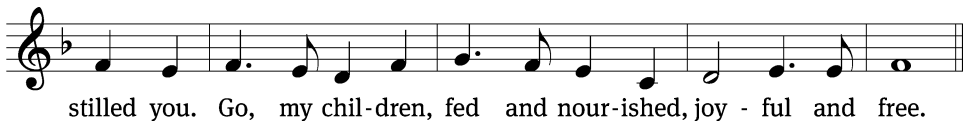
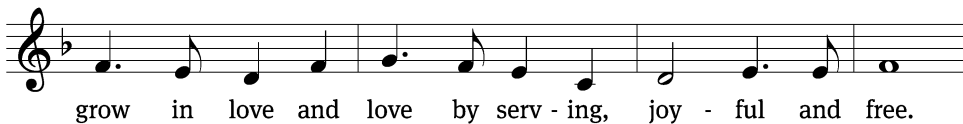
¹⁷ The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my sheep.

HYMN

930 – Go, My Children, with My Blessing (st. 3)



...THE ABILITY TO WORK


Deuteronomy 8:17-18

Our wealth is a gift of God often “earned” through work. But even the ability to work is a gift from the LORD our God. He is the one who makes us willing and able to use our gifts in his service and in the service of others, and it is him that we thank for this blessing! God’s love endures forever!

DEUTERONOMY 8:17 You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” ¹⁸ But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

HYMN

506 – For the Fruits of His Creation (st. 2)



2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.

In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.

In our world-wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de -

spair - ing, in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We appreciate the offerings given to support the work of God's Kingdom here and throughout the world.

Offerings can be given in any of three ways:

- Set in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary
- On the Calvary website: <https://calvarydallas.org/give/>
- Scan the QR code to the right...



Give us a record of your visit through our online Connection Card, or by filling out the card in the pew and placing it in the offering plate as you leave. The Connection Card tab can be found at the bottom right of any page of the Calvary website, <https://calvarydallas.org> or by scanning the QR code above.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Offertory for Day of Thanksgiving

*Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!
Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!
Kings of the earth and all people, princes and rulers of earth!
Young men and women, old and young together!
Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;
His glory is above earth and heaven. Let them praise the name of the Lord!*

*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.*

*Praise the name of the Lord, Whom earth and heav'n adore.
With hearts and hands and voices Now thank we all our God!*

...THE PEACE OF REST

Matthew 11:28-30

Jesus gives us the blessed assurance that he will be our rest and relief through all of life's trials and temptations. When we are "yoked" to Christ, the burden is exceedingly easy and light because he carries both the weight and us! This promise is true not only in this life, but in the life to come. **God's love endures forever!**

MATTHEW 11:28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

HYMN

794 – Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow (st. 3)

3 Lord Je - sus, since you love me, O spread your
wings a - bove me and shield me from a - larm.
Though Sa - tan would as - sail me, your mer - cy will not
fail me; I rest in your pro - tect - ing arm.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

God our Savior, we lift up your hands and hearts to you in prayer, giving thanks for all your blessings. We give thanks to you, Lord, for you are good. **Your mercy endures forever.**

We give thanks to you and praise your name for leading us each day, providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, and all we need for body and life. We give thanks to you, Lord, for you are good. **Your mercy endures forever.**

We give thanks to you and praise your name for feeding our souls with the Bread of Life, your holy word: your law to guide and correct us, your gospel to restore and empower us. We give thanks to you, Lord, for you are good. **Your mercy endures forever.**

We give thanks to you and praise your name for the special blessings you have given us in the past year, [*especially...*]. You certainly have opened your gracious hand, and met our needs with abundance. We give thanks to you, Lord, for you are good. **Your mercy endures forever.**

We give thanks to you and praise your name for leading us through hardships in this past year, [*especially...*]. You work even these for our good, and you discipline and train us in your great love.

We give thanks to you, Lord, for you are good. **Your mercy endures forever.**

Keep your goodness, mercy and love on our hearts and minds daily, that we remember you as the giver of all our gifts and abilities, and as our only Redeemer and Savior. We give thanks to you, Lord, for you are good. **Your mercy endures forever.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we give you thanks for your blessings to each of us.

Silent prayer.

Lord, your mercies are never-failing, and in your grace, you give us life, health, food, clothing, and shelter. Give us thankful hearts, that we always acknowledge you as the giver of every good and perfect gift, and use what you give us wisely, for your glory and for our good; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

...THE ASSURANCE OF HEAVEN

Revelation 22:1-5

*The reason we are assured of heavenly glory is because our entrance is not based on our own merit or effort, but solely on the blood of that Lamb enthroned in the center of the city. We will be before the face of God...no more sorrows, no more pains, no more darkness...for we will reign forever and ever with God! **God's love endures forever!***

REVELATION 22:1 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. ⁴ They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

HYMN

783 – Abide with Me (st. 7)

7 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;
shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me!

BLESSING

The LORD bless you and keep you.

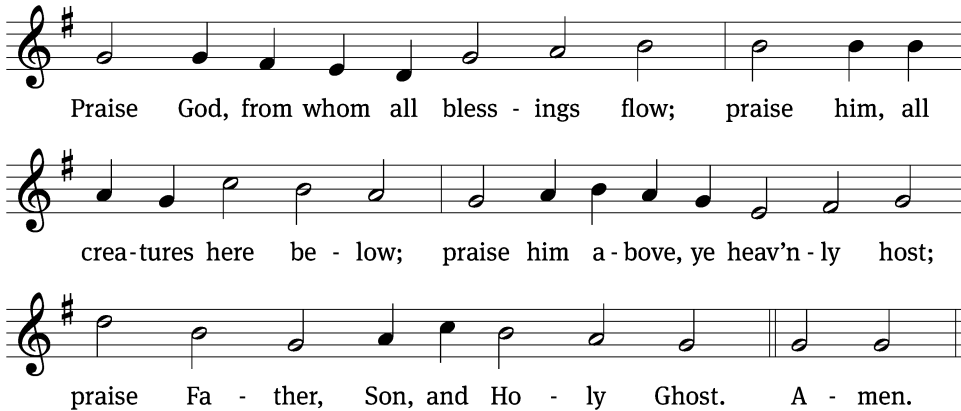
The LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

HYMN

617 – Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all
creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Thanks to Pr. Gunnar Ledermann (*Divine Peace, Rockwall*) for his service to us today!

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Hymn 862 – Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

Tune: *Geistliche Lieder zu Wittemberg, Wittenberg, 1543*, ed. Joseph Klug;

Setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941*, alt.

Scripture references: Ps 2; Jn 8:31; Eph 1:22,23; 4:3-6

Text and music: public domain

Hymn 506 – For the Fruits of His Creation

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.; setting: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

Scripture references: Ge 8:22; Ps 104:14,15; Mt 25: 34-40; Mk 4:26-29; Lk 19:10

Text: © 1970 Hope Publishing Company

Music: public domain

Hymn 622 – For Many Years, O God of Grace (CW '93)

Text: William M. Czamanske, 1873-1964, alt.

Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608, alt.

Setting: ©1981 Richard W. Gieseke

Hymn 930 – Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919-2008

Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.; setting: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

Scripture references: Tit 3:4-7; Jn 20:26-29; Jn 14:26,27; Nu 6:22-27

Text: ©1983 Concordia Publishing House; music: public domain

Offertory for Day of Thanksgiving

Robert A. Hobby

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Hymn 794 – Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941*, alt.

Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450-1517; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941*, alt.

Scripture references: Ps 92:1-3; Rev 2:10; Ps 57:1; Ps 4:8

Text and music: public domain

Hymn 783 – Abide with Me

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847, alt.

Tune: William H. Monk, 1823-1889; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941*

Scripture references: Lk 24:29; Ps 63:6-8; 73:23-26

Text and music: public domain

Hymn 617 – Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Tune: *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551*, ed. Louis Bourgeois;

Setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941*, alt.

Scripture references: Ps 148; Isa 6:1-4; Jas 1:17

Text and music: public domain

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Prayer of the Church

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