



The Day of Thanksgiving—USA

Wednesday, November 25, 2009

Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Setting Three



First Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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The Rev. Steven Woyen
Ruth Patrick
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Pastor
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INTRODUCTION

Today's readings reflect two of the strains that go into the celebration of a national day of thanksgiving: gratitude for abundant harvest (Joel) and civic prayer for a peaceable common life (1 Timothy). The core meaning of Thanksgiving for many of us—a home feast for extended family and friends—is not reflected in the readings; but it is reflected weekly in the church's meal of thanksgiving (eucharist). What we wish for both these thanksgiving meals is that they will go deeper than celebration of one another and our own blessings, to recognize in our true Host one who wants everyone brought to the table.

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GATHERING

The GATHERING MUSIC

The GATHERING HYMN

“Come, ye thankful people, come”

ELW 693

The GREETING

The Pastor greets the assembly with the following words:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

And also with you.

The PRAYER OF THE DAY

The assembly is seated

ELW p. 142

WORD

The FIRST READING

Joel 2:21–27

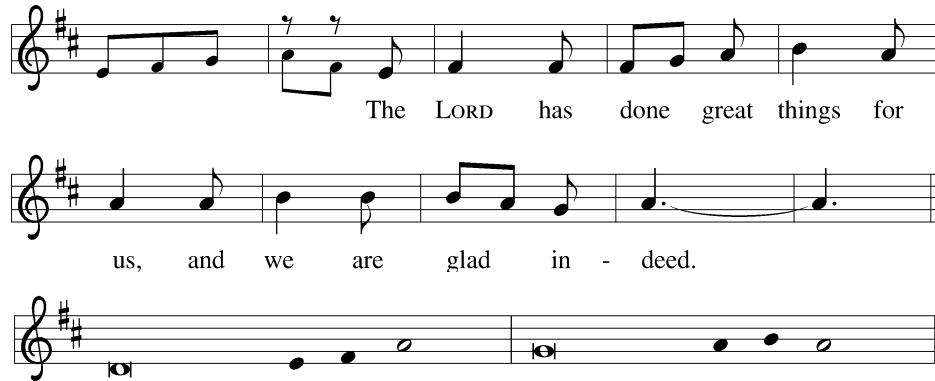
- ²¹Do not fear, O soil;
be glad and rejoice,
for the LORD has done great things!
- ²²Do not fear, you animals of the field,
for the pastures of the wilderness are green;
the tree bears its fruit,
the fig tree and vine give their full yield.
- ²³O children of Zion, be glad
and rejoice in the LORD your God;
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,
he has poured down for you abundant rain,
the early and the later rain, as before.
- ²⁴The threshing floors shall be full of grain,
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.
- ²⁵I will repay you for the years
that the swarming locust has eaten,
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
my great army, which I sent against you.

- ²⁶You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
and praise the name of the LORD your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you.
And my people shall never again be put to shame.
- ²⁷You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,
and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other.
And my people shall never again be put to shame

The reading concludes

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.



- ¹When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,
then were we like | those who dream.
- ²**Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
and our tongue with | shouts of joy.
Then they said among the nations,
"The LORD has done great | things for them." Refrain**
- ³The LORD has done great | things for us,
and we are | glad indeed.
- ⁴**Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses | of the Negeb.**
- ⁵Those who | sowed with tears
will reap with | songs of joy.
- ⁶**Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves. Refrain**

The SECOND READING

1 Timothy 2:1-7

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For

there is one God;
there is also one mediator between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,

⁶who gave himself a ransom for all —
this was attested at the right time. ⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

The reading concludes

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands

The GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p. 142

The HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 6:25–33

²⁵Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you — you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' ³²For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

The SERMON

Silence for reflection

The assembly stands to proclaim the Word of God in song.

The HYMN OF THE DAY

“We plow the fields and scatter”

ELW 681

The CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

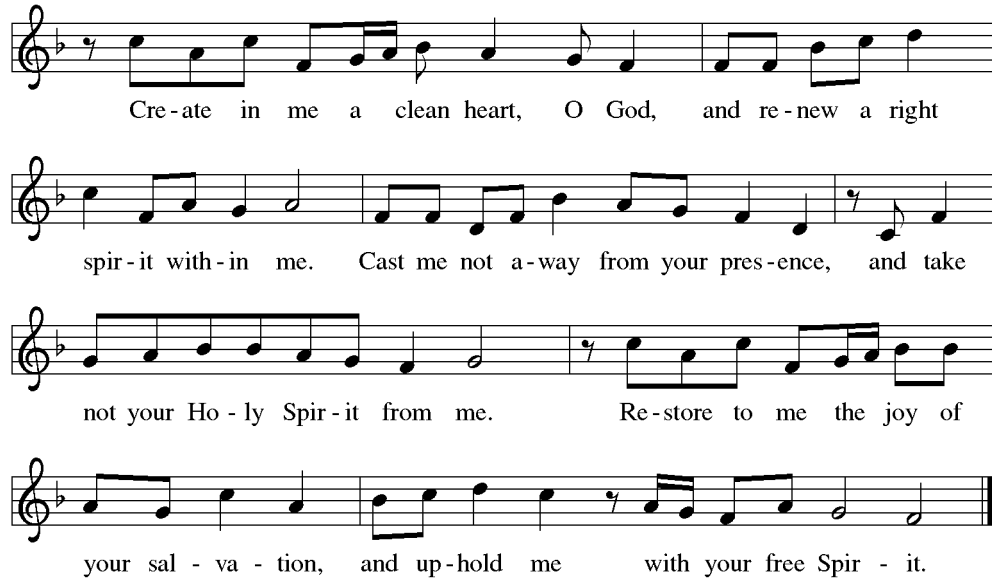
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

The PRAYERS & PEACE

ELW p. 143

MEAL

The assembly stands



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

The GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW p. 144

The SANCTUS

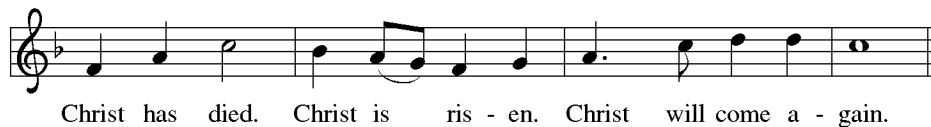
ELW p. 144

The THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (I)

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory...*The prayer continues*

...For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a-gain.

The prayer continues and concludes...

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



A-men, a-men, a-men.

The LORD'S PRAYER (Right column)

ELW p. 145

The BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Feast with the Lord, who has swallowed up death forever.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly is seated

The LAMB OF GOD

ELW p. 146

The DISTRIBUTION

*Believing in the Real Presence of Christ, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America practices Eucharistic Hospitality. Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord, presented through the Church to those who are baptized. **The Sacrament is distributed by coming up the center aisle and moving to the far end of the rail. Please kneel as you are able.** Those who do not wish to receive the Sacrament may approach with their arms crossed to receive a blessing.*

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

“For the beauty of the earth”

ELW 879

“Great is thy faithfulness”

ELW 733

The assembly stands.

The POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen and keep you in his grace.

Amen

Let us pray... At your table, O God, we have been made new.

Our mourning and crying and pain pass away,
and we see the glory of your presence among us.

Unite us with this vision,
and make us into your holy people,
one in the body of Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

The BLESSING

The SENDING HYMN

“Praise to the Lord”

ELW 858

The SENDING

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

The SENDING MUSIC

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Acknowledgements

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PRAYER CONCERNS—Judy Himes, Vivian Barr, Cathy Hattery, Ruth Schram, Dawn Gasperowich, and all nursing home residents.



On **Saturday, December 5, 2009 at Wallick Auction Center** a fundraiser will be held for Strasburg resident Doug Froman. The dinner which consists of Rigatoni, Soup, Salad, Dessert and Beverage, will be held from 4pm to 7pm. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for children 4-11, under 4 – free. Tickets may be purchased at El Duckos and Strasburg Pharmacy. There will be a live auction held at 7pm. Thrivent Financial Care in Communities will provide matching funds for the event.



POINSETTIAS – IF YOU HAVE NOT PLACED YOUR ORDER FOR POINSETTIAS YET, PLEASE DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE WILL BE CALLING THE ORDER IN. THANK YOU.



SOCIAL MISSIONS - The mission for November will be the Hat, Mitten & Scarf Tree for Share-A-Christmas. There will be a box in the Narthex beginning Sunday, November 8th thru Sunday, November 29th.



Hanging of the Greens will take place on Sat., November 28th at 6:00 PM. All are welcome to help get the Church ready for the upcoming season.



5th Sunday Community Free Meal held at St. John UCC on November 29 – 5pm.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN (Week of 11/22—11/29)

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| Sunday | <u>Christ the King—Last Sunday of the Church Year</u> 9 AM—Beach City Holy Communion 10:15 AM—Beach City Christian Education 9:15 AM—Strasburg Christian Education 10:30 AM—Strasburg Holy Communion 12 PM—Catechism Retreat Ends 7 PM—Community Thanksgiving Worship (St. John UCC) |
| Monday | 9 AM—Beach City Quilters |
| Tuesday | 9 AM—Strasburg Quilters |
| Wednesday | NO <i>The Book of Concord</i> (Beach City) 7 PM—Thanksgiving Eve Holy Communion (Strasburg) |
| Thursday | <u>The Day of Thanksgiving</u> NO <i>The Book of Concord</i> (Strasburg) |
| Friday | No Scheduled Activities |
| Saturday | 6:00 PM—Strasburg Hanging of the Greens |
| Sunday | <u>The First Sunday in Advent</u> 9 AM—Beach City Service of the Word 10:15 AM—Beach City Christian Education 9:15 AM—Strasburg Christian Education 10:30 AM—Strasburg Holy Communion 11:30 PM—Catechism |

All ministry is open to disciples in both Strasburg and Beach City congregations. The names “Strasburg” or “Beach City” denotes location.



The Social Missions committee is supporting “The Carpenter’s Cupboard” (the food pantry @ United Methodist Strasburg) for the month of December. Cash donations are needed but we are also collecting the following:

- Gallon Ziploc food storage bags
- Disposable diapers
- Sanitary Napkins or tampons
- Cleaning Supplies
- Bath soap & shampoo
- Laundry detergent and dish soap
- Toilet paper, tissues and paper towels
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Deodorant (men and women)

We will collect these items in the box in the Narthex beginning Sunday, December 6th thru Sunday, January 3rd, 2010. Please give generously for those in need in our community.

The Social Missions committee will meet on Tuesday, December 15th @ 7:00 PM to discuss missions for 2010.