



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Thanksgiving Worship October 13, 2024
Worship 11:00 A.M.

Pastor: Rev. Diana Edis

Musician: Sheila Seidemann

Videographer: George Edis

Reader: Sally Newton

Worship is live streamed on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/princerupertlutheran/>

Welcome to Worship at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Today's readings reflect two of the strains that go into the celebration of a national day of thanksgiving: gratitude for abundant harvest and civic prayer for a peaceable common life. 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.

Weekly Prayer Petitions

Local: All Prince Rupert Communities of Faith

Synod: First Lutheran, Vancouver; BC Lutheran campus ministries and chaplains

ACC: Archbishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Kootenay

ELCIC: Dean, council, and congregations of the Lower Mainland of the BC Synod

Discipleship Opportunities

1. Council meets Tuesday, Oct. 15 at 7:00 both in person and by Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85848024707?pwd=UWZJcFRZSmJVb1JiVEJISE02MDBKQT09>

Meeting ID: 858 4802 4707 Passcode: 271456

2. The Pastor will be Public at Javadotcup, Wednesdays from 9:30 - 11:30 AM

* All Hymns and liturgical text reprinted under **One License**: #A-731124 and **Augsburg Fortress**: #SB157842

* Our Bible readings are taken from the New Revised Standard Version, covered under AF #SB157842.

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

We Praise You, O God

870

The musical score is written for a three-part setting (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass) in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a clear harmonic structure. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with each line of music corresponding to a line of text. The lyrics are: 1 We praise you, O God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor; 2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and mo - thers; 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!

Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882–1963
 Music: KREMSER, A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626

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.

Kyrie

Pg 147

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

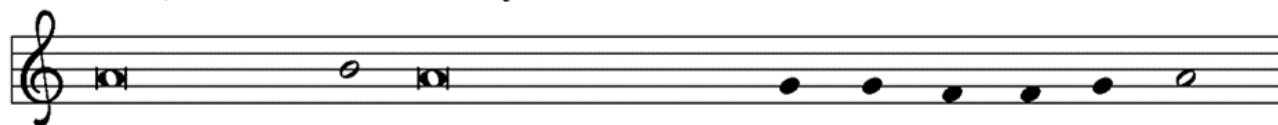
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

Hymn of Praise

Pg 149

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Let us pray together our Prayer of the Day

Almighty God our Father, 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 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Our first reading is from Joel, beginning at the 2nd Chapter

2:21-27

Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the Lord has done great things! Do 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.

O 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. The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

I 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.

You 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. You 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 word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God

We read Psalm 126 responsively: (*leader - light print, congregation - bold*)

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

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."

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses of the Negeb.

Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

**Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

Our second reading is from 1st Timothy, beginning at the 2nd Chapter

2:1-7

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all – this was attested at the right time. For 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 Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

page 151

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The holy gospel according to Matthew, beginning at the 6th chapter

6:25-33

Glory to you, O Lord

[Jesus said,] “Therefore 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? Look 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? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But 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? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Diana Edis

Hymn of the Day

God of the Fertile Fields

No. 1063 (ACS)

1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
 2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
 3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
 4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the

earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
 trust from you all that you give; help us in
 serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
 Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our

boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
 love to share, teach us like you to care
 toil be used, no gift of yours a - bused,
 lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.

that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
 for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.
 no hum - ble task re - fused, your love be - stows.
 Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.
 Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796
 Text © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

Join with me and with the whole church in the confession of our faith, using the words of the Apostles' Creed. We confess:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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

Prayers of Intercession

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation. Hearing the words "Merciful God," God's people may reply, "receive our prayer."

A brief silence.

We praise you, O Lord, for you alone are God. Give to your church a holy curiosity to ask questions and build bridges across all differences. Create and sustain partnerships across denominations and between all religions. On this day of Thanksgiving, commit us to loving, respectful, and faithful dialogue with our Indigenous members and neighbors who find this day difficult. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We praise you for green pastures and abundant harvests. Feed us with the fruit of the earth, the work of human hands. Bless those who labor in fields and factories for the food that nourishes and strengthens. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We praise you for leaders who seek justice and equity for all. We pray for all elected officials. Guide them to prioritize the common good over narrow individualism. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We praise you for your tender care. Be present with those who weep this day. Lead them through their sorrow and tears into shouts of joy. We pray now, either aloud or silently, for all those in our hearts and on our minds... Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We praise you for our community of faith. You have brought us this far by faith. In times of worry and uncertainty, renew our trust in your abundance. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We praise you for your saints who now feast at your eternal banquet. Sustain us by their faithful lives of gratitude until that day when we join them at your table. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering

Offerings may be mailed to the church, placed in our mailbox, sent by e-transfer to offering2stpauls@citywest.ca, or given at CanadaHelps to St. Paul's Lutheran, Prince Rupert

Offering Prayer

Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name.

Amen.

We enter a time of communion. All people are invited to receive God's meal. If you wish to receive, this meal is for you. If you would like to learn about communion please speak with the pastor after worship. Those at home may prepare bread and wine or juice for your worship space. When you receive the elements and eat and drink you may respond, "Amen." We have bread or gluten-free wafers, wine or juice; please let your server know which options are needed.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal, and make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout the world. Glory and praise to you, O God, Author of life, Word made flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathered into one across time and space by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using whatever version of that prayer comforts you. We pray:

**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.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

If the Holy Spirit calls you to this feast of bread and wine or juice, I invite you to receive that which has been prepared. Whether you are distant or present, all of us are gathered together around the table of Christ and we are united, made whole in the body of our Lord. Behold, God is making all things new. Take your place in the new creation

Lamb of God

pg. 154

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn:

Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

No. 783 (blue)

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.
2. Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find:
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia.
3. We do not live by bread alone, but by ev'ry word
That proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia.

Text: Matt. 6:33, adapt. Karen Lafferty Music: Karen Lafferty © 1972 Maranatha! Music

Communion Hymn: *Great is Thy Faithfulness* No. 733(red)

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt
be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I
see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their
courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy,
and love. (*refrain*)

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to
guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with the
thousand beside! (*refrain*)

Text: Thomas O Chisholm

Music: William M Runyan © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Co.

The body and blood of our Lord and Saviour strengthen you to eternal life.

Amen

Prayer after communion

Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and
blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you
have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our
Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The Ancient One, enthroned, the Crucified One, now risen, the Indwelling One,
poured out, ☩ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

Let All Things Now Living

881



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and

God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;

who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the

still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.

God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -

fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise

till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To

for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892-1980, alt.
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune
Text © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company.

Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.
Thanks be to God.