WELCOME to the ST. PAUL LUTHERAN FAMILY

THANKSGIVING EVE

November 25, 2026

7:00 pm





Christians Always Give Thanks—We Understand:
Gratitude Is Contentment!

AS WE GATHER
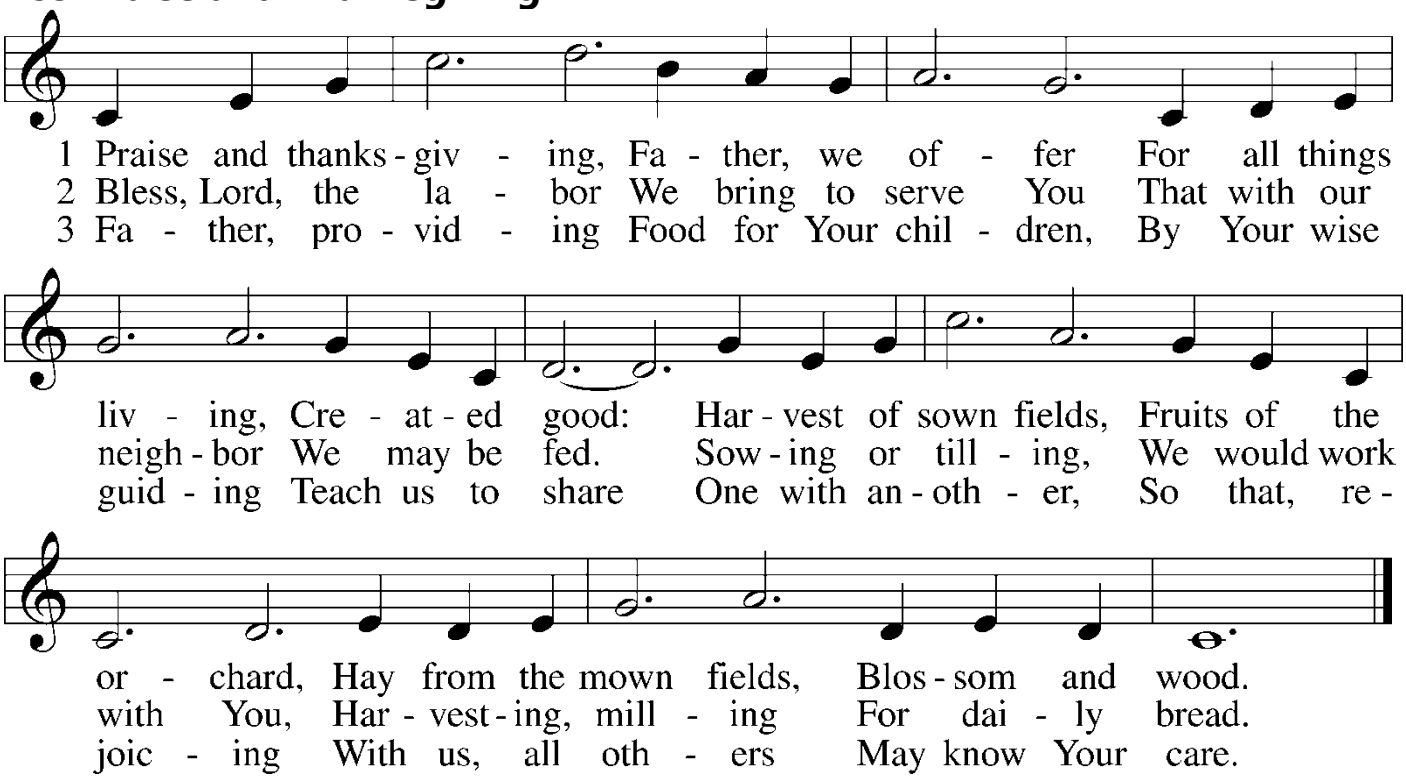
A Day of National Thanksgiving is an honored tradition in this nation. But thankfulness to God is something that transcends national borders and the boundaries of time.

Gratitude does not depend on what is given or what is received. Gratitude is an attitude of the heart. That is what we see in the one leper who is healed. He cannot go back to his old life, nor can he begin his new life until he returns to Jesus, the source of healing, and offers Him thanks and praise. Each of us has received mercies new every morning. The key to contentment and peace is neither the abundance of gifts nor an absence, but a heart that returns thanks to the source of those gifts.
Tonight, we focus on the giver of all the good gifts we have received, from the food we eat and the air we breathe all the way to the **greatest gift: Jesus Himself.**

RINGING OF THE BELL

OPENING HYMN
(Please Stand)

789 Praise and Thanksgiving



INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 136:1–3*

Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,
People: for His steadfast love endures forever.
Pastor: Give thanks to the God of gods,
People: for His steadfast love endures forever.
Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
People: for His steadfast love endures forever.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: With abundant generosity, God created the universe, the earth, all creatures, and each of us. He daily blesses and sustains us and all creation. Yet by our sin, God's good creation is broken. So let us confess our sin and hear again God's re-creating word of forgiveness.

People: We confess to You, O Lord, that we are naturally inclined to sin and self-centeredness. We have sinned in thought, word, and deed. In addition to the wrong things we have done, we have also left many good things undone. And like the nine lepers, we fail to thank You as we should.

Pastor: Take heart! Jesus has come to forgive your sins and He will one day return and make all creation new. With joy, I, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus, declare to you His forgiveness. By the command of Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Alleluia! Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, and His mercy endures forever! Alleluia!

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

ALL: Dear Father, please forgive us when we fail to say "Thank You." We know how blessed we are. But we forget that apart from You, Lord, we fail to take our next breath. We want to return to You with praise on our lips! Teach us to share our many blessings. And above all, let us never forget the greatest gift You give us: eternal life through the death of Your precious Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks unto the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son
(Repeat)

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"
Let the poor say, "I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us"
And now let the weak say, "I am strong"
Let the poor say, "I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us"



(Please Be Seated)

FIRST READING (In the good land remember God's fatherly care.)

Deuteronomy 8:1-18 (NLT) Responsively:

Elder: Be careful to obey all the commands I am giving you today. Then you will live and multiply, and you will enter and occupy the land the Lord swore to give your ancestors.

Men: Remember how the Lord your God led you through the wilderness for forty years, humbling you and testing you to prove your character, and to find out whether or not you would really obey His commands.

Women: Yes, He humbled you by letting you go hungry and then feeding you with manna, a food previously unknown to you and your ancestors. He did it to teach you that people need more than bread for their life; real life comes by feeding on every word of the Lord.

Men: **For all these forty years your clothes didn't wear out, and your feet didn't blister or swell.**

Elder: So you should realize that just as a parent disciplines a child, the Lord your God disciplines you to help you. So obey the commands of the Lord your God by walking in His ways and fearing Him.

Women: *For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land of flowering streams and pools of water, with springs that gush forth in the valleys and hills. It is a land of wheat and barley, of grapevines, fig trees, pomegranates, olives, and honey.*

Men: **It is a land where food is plentiful and nothing is lacking. It is a land where iron is as common as stone, and copper is abundant in the hills. When you have eaten your fill, praise the Lord your God for the good land He has given you.**

Elder: But that is the time to be careful! Beware that in your plenty you do not forget the Lord your God and disobey His commands, regulations, and laws. For when you have become full and prosperous and have built fine homes to live in, and when your flocks and herds have become very large and your silver and gold have multiplied along with everything else, that is the time to be careful.

ALL: **Do not become proud at that time and forget the Lord your God.**

This is the Word of the Lord, the word we trust. Amen.

(Please Stand)

GOSPEL Luke 17:11-19

(*Jesus generously heals ten lepers. A Samaritan is the Only one who thanks Him.)*

Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"
When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed.
One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him--and he was a Samaritan.
Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CREED *The First Article*

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
Pastor: What does this mean?
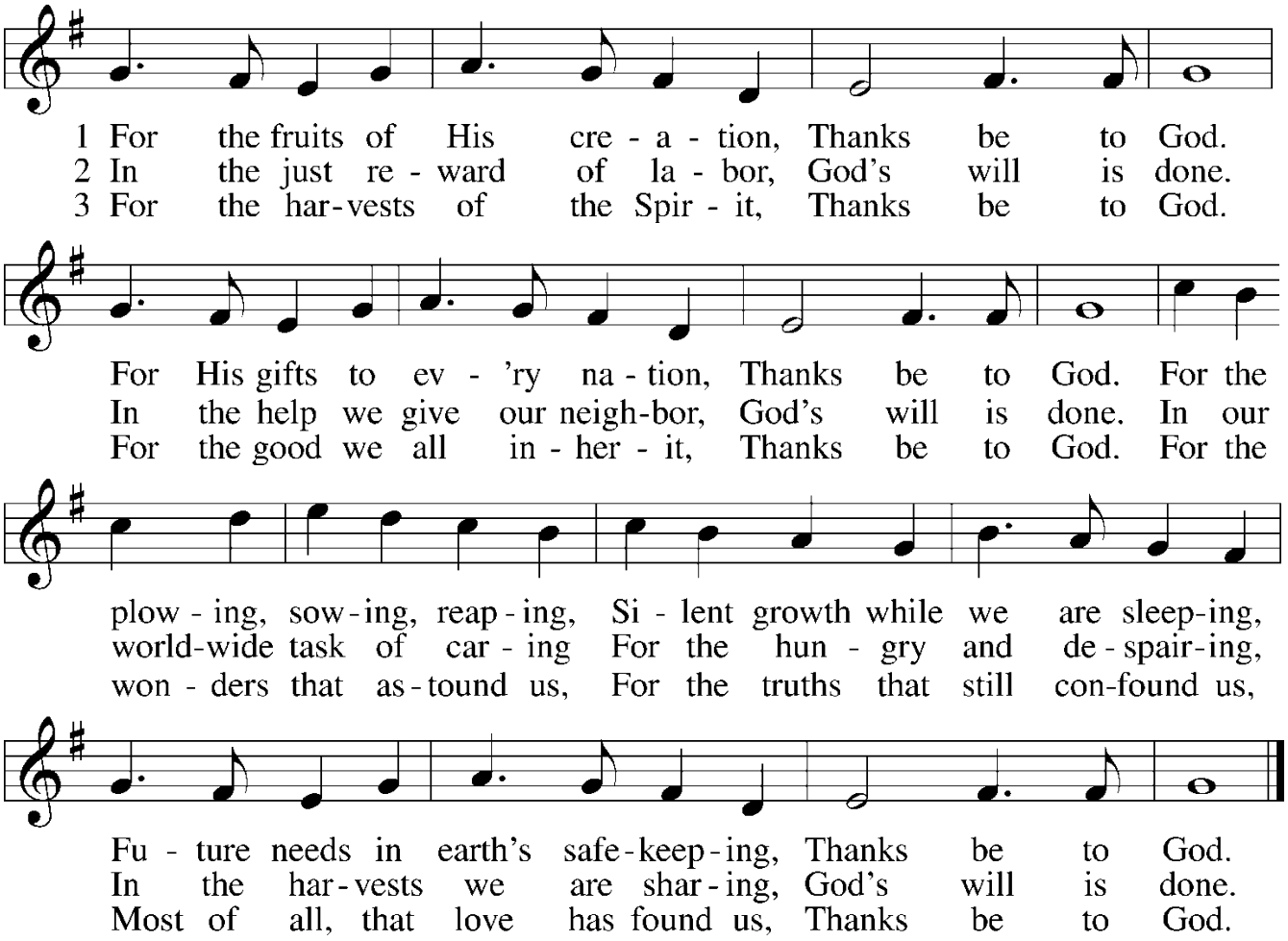
People: I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

894 For the Fruits of His Creation



MESSAGE Pastor Christopher Fairbairn

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

If you brought your offering today, you are welcome to leave it in the offering box you will find at the back of the church. **Thank you.**

We invite <u>our guests</u> and members to fill out our Friendship Card during worship, which is found on the back of the pew. Please leave your card at the end of the pew near the center aisle as you leave.

THE 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(Sung responsively to the tune of: *THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION)*

GOD'S MEAL GIVEN TO HIS PEOPLE



Pastor: May God the Lord be with you.
People: God also be with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts rejoicing!
People: We lift them up anew!
Pastor: Give unto God all glory, all honor and all praise.
People: To God is due thanksgiving and worship all our days.

People: The night He was abandoned, the night He was betrayed,
Our Lord took bread and blessed it, then broke it, gave it, said:
Pastor: Take, eat, this is my body, given in death for you.
Remember, as you taste it, my grace and mercy true.

People: Again, the supper ended, before we all had fled,
He lifted in thanksgiving the cup, then passed it, said:
Pastor: Drink, in my blood shed for you, forgiveness of your sin,
It's poured out so, rememb'ring, your love I then might win.

People: Amen! Then come, Lord Jesus; be present at your feast.
Amen! O Holy Spirit, unite us in your peace.
Amen! Almighty Father, give strength to do your will.
O Trinity most holy, feed us and love us still.

THE DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION WINE: For those who may not be able to take regular wine, we offer non-alcoholic wine. The non-alcoholic wine is the light colored wine in the center of the communion tray.

SONGS DURING COMMUNION
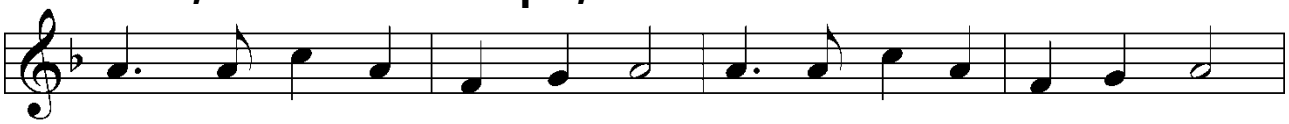
785 We Praise You, O God

1 We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;
We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.
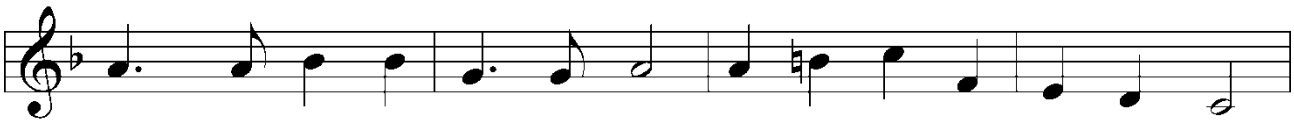
2 We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You;
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.
When perils o'ertake us, You will not forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

3 With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!
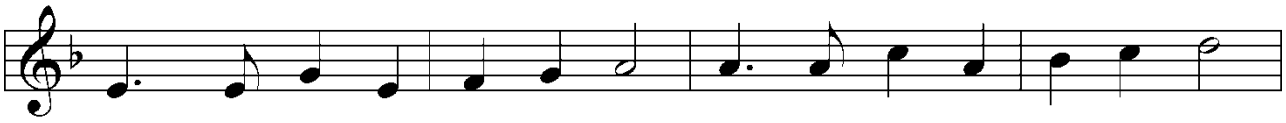
892 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come
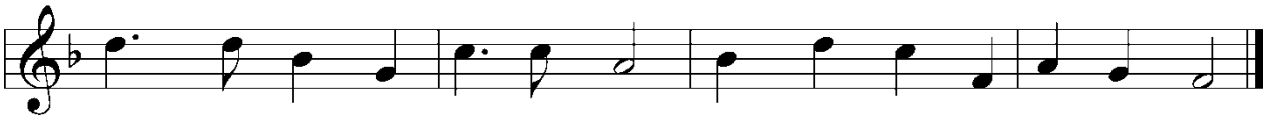


1 Come, ye thank - ful peo - ple, come; Raise the song of har - vest home.
2 All the world is God's own field, Fruit un - to His praise to yield;
3 For the Lord, our God, shall come And shall take His har - vest home,
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come To Thy fi - nal har - vest home;



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,
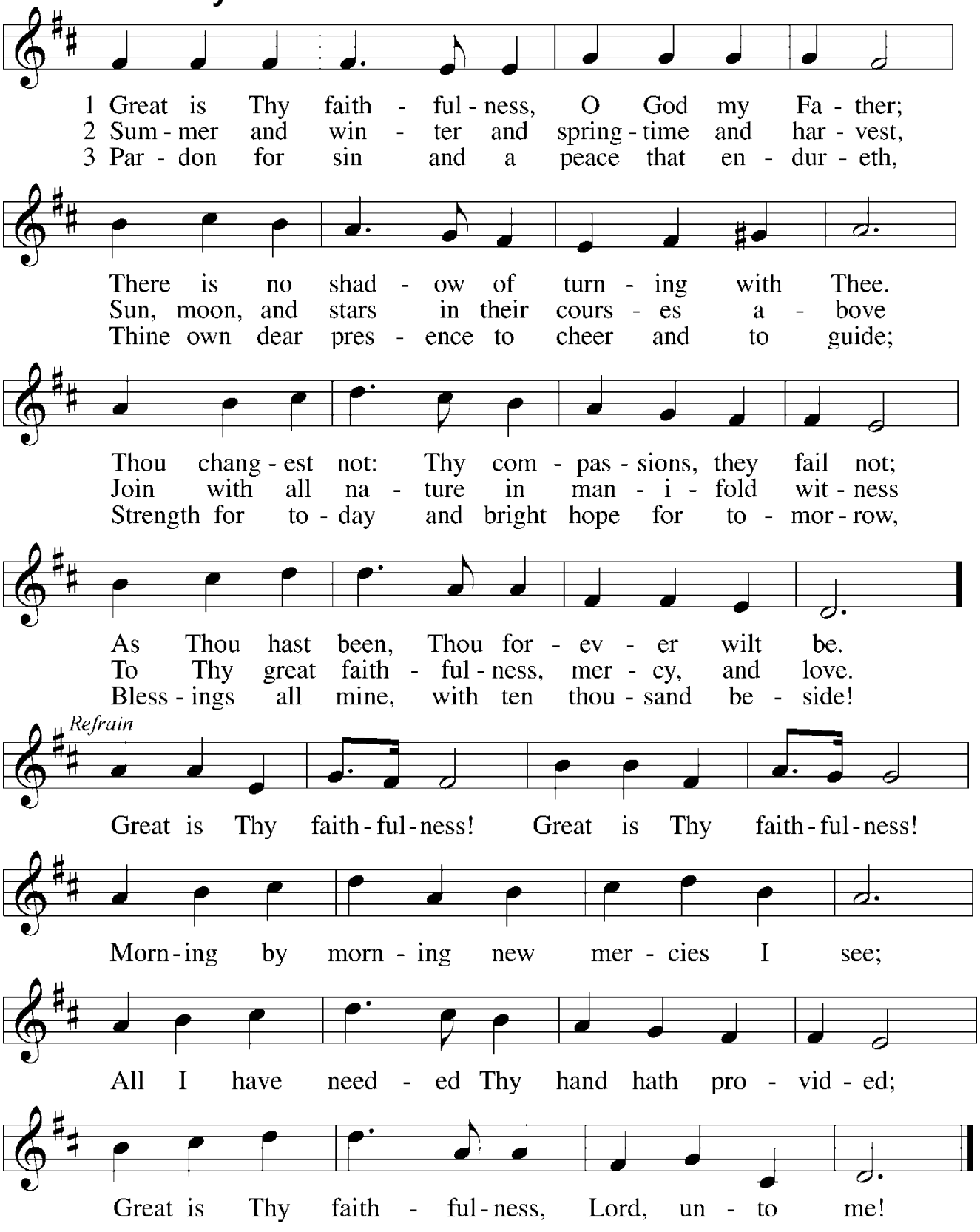


God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide For our wants to be sup - plied.
First the blade and then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap - pear.
Give His an - gels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,
There, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, In Thy gar - ner to a - bide:



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.

809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness



BLESSING OF THE COMMUNICANTS

Pastor: We give thanks to You, Lord Jesus, for the blessings You have given us to eat and drink in the Sacrament! You give us all good things through Your promises. We praise You for removing our sins and strengthening our faith in the Holy Supper. Move us to always rejoice in Your many gifts; through Jesus Christ Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Thank You, O Lord, our God! When we are empty You fill us; when we are hungry you feed us. We have seen Your goodness and mercy. Now let us go into the world and bless Your name! Amen.

BENEDICTION

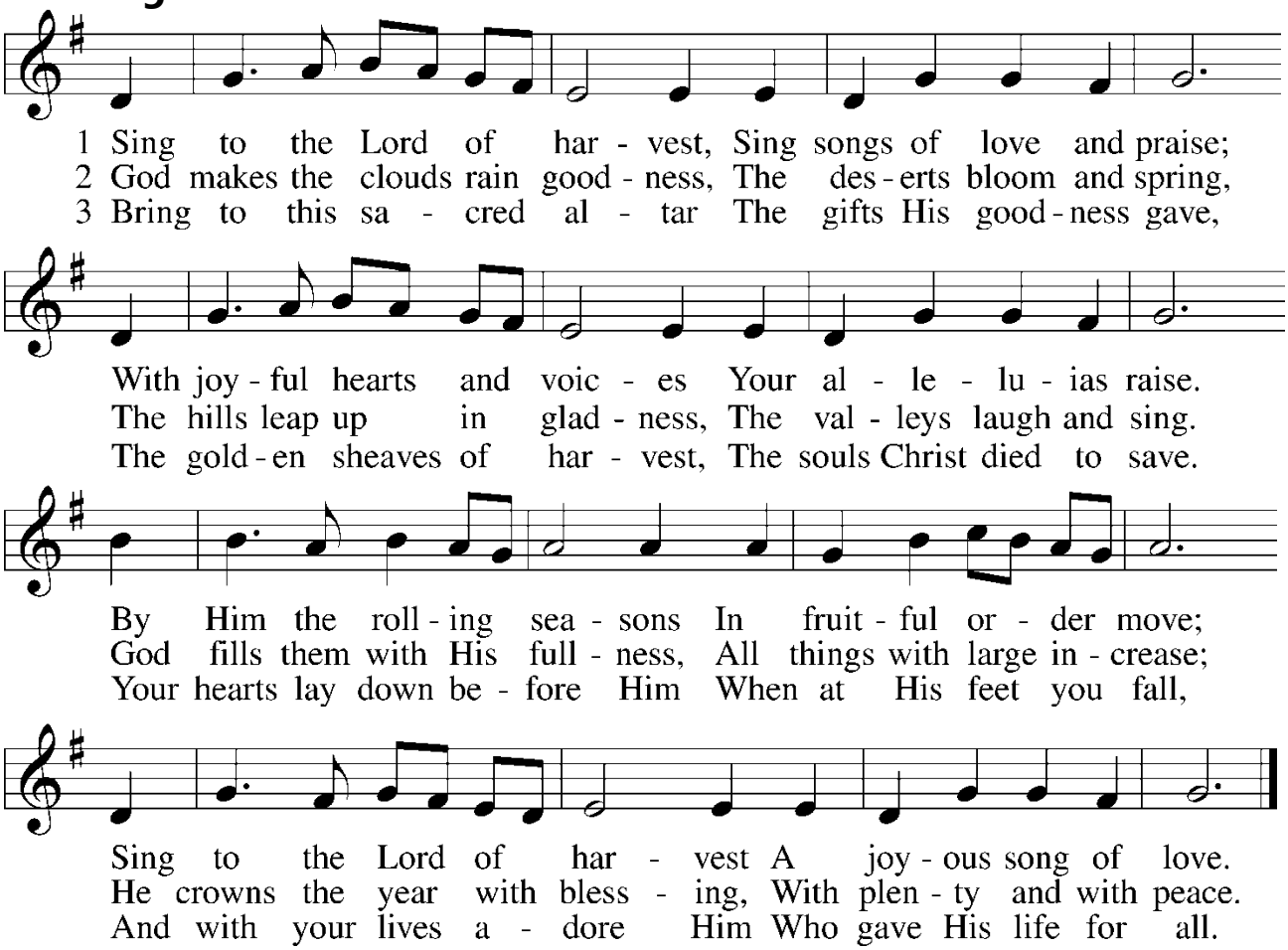
Pastor: From the rising of the sun to its setting,
People: may the name of the Lord be praised.

Pastor: Without anxiety or fear, but in all things, by prayer and supplication, offer Your requests to God.
People: And may the peace of God which surpasses all our understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Pastor: The blessing of almighty God—Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit—remain with you now and forever.
People: Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

893 Sing to the Lord of Harvest



Have a Blessed Thanksgiving!



Where We Serve

Preacher/Officiant	**Rev. Christopher Fairbairn**
Organist	**Paul Ventimiglia**
Elder	**John Hasse**
Ushers	**Lenny Elliott** **Matt Babic**
Reader	**Mark Ernst**



HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE 2026



(H/C = Holy Communion)

Saint Paul Lutheran Northville -noon services

Decorate Church 11.29.2026

11/25/2026 - Thanksgiving Eve Service – 7pm — Wednesday (H/C)
11/26/2026 – CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED - Thursday

11/29/2026 – Worship – 8:30am & 11:00am – Sunday

12/02/2026 – Advent noon Service – Wednesday – lunch follows service
12/02/2026 - Advent Dinner – 5:30pm – 6:45pm – Wednesday (Board of Evangelism)
12/02/2026 - Advent Service – 7pm –- Wednesday

12/06/2026 – Worship – 8:30am (H/C) & 11:00am (H/C) - Sunday

12/09/2026 – Advent Noon Service - Wednesday -lunch follows service
12/09/2026 – Advent Dinner – 5:30pm-6:45pm – Wednesday (Youth Group)
12/09/2026 - Advent Service -7pm - Wednesday

12/13/2026 – Worship – 8:30am (H/C) & 11:00am – Sunday

12/16/2026 – Advent Noon Service- Wednesday -lunch follows service
12/16/2026 – Advent Dinner – 5:30pm-6:45pm – Wednesday (St. Paul School)
12/16/2026 - Advent Service -7pm –Wednesday - St. Paul Sunday School

12/20/2026 – Worship – 8:30am (H/C) & 11:00am (H/C) – Sunday

12/24/2026 - Christmas Eve - 6:00 pm & 8:00pm – Thursday

12/24/2026 - Christmas Eve Family Service - 10pm – Thursday (H/C)

12/25/2026- Christmas Day Service – 10am — Friday (H/C)

12/27/2026 - Worship – 10am – Sunday – ONE SERVICE

12/28/2026 – CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED- Monday

12/31/2026 – New Years Eve Service – 6pm – Thursday (H/C)

1/03/2027 – Worship – 8:30am (H/C) & 11:00am (H/C) – Sunday

1/4/2027– CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED - Monday

For Your Family Gathering This Week…

ASKING A BLESSING AND RETURNING THANKS

The following prayers are contained in Luther's Small Catechism as ways to ask for a pre-meal blessing and return thanks following the meal. Consider incorporating these as part of your Thanksgiving celebration.

Asking a Blessing

The children and members of the household shall go to the table reverently, fold their hands, and say:
The eyes of all look to You, [O Lord,] and You give them their food at the proper time. You open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. (Psalm 145:15–16)

Then shall be said the Lord's Prayer and the following:

Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Your gifts which we receive from Your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Returning Thanks

Also, after eating, they shall, in like manner, reverently and with folded hands say:

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever. [He] gives food to every creature. He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call. His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor His delight in the legs of a man; the Lord delights in those who fear Him, who
put their hope in His unfailing love. (Psalm 136:1, 25; 147:9–11)

Then shall be said the Lord's Prayer and the following:
We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, for all Your benefits, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.