



WELCOME! “O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!”

Knowing that God is good leads us to worship Him! We’re glad to be here; and we’re glad you’ve joined us tonight!

Worship Theme: Charles Dickens said that we are somewhat mixed up here in America. Instead of having just one Thanksgiving Day each year, we should have 364. “Use that one day just for complaining and griping,” he said. “Use the other 364 days to thank God each day for the many blessings He has showered upon you.” We praise our Triune God for ALL the blessings graciously given to us.

Choir Anthem – I Will Give Thanks

Welcoming Song *We Praise You, O God Our Redeemer Creator*
CW21 609

**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.**

**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 battles we win.**

**With voices united our praises we offer;
To You, great Jehovah, glad anthems we raise.
Your strong arm will guide us; our God is beside us.
To You, our great Redeemer, fore’er be praise!**

THANKSGIVING LITANY

Sing a new song to the Lord, For He has done marvelous things.

Acclaim the LORD, all people on earth,

Break into songs of joy, sing psalms.

From Your high pavilion You water the hills;

The earth is satisfied by the fruit of Your work.

You make grass to grow for the cattle,

And plants for man to cultivate – bringing bread out of the earth.

How many are Your works, O LORD!

In wisdom You have made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures.

These all look to You to give them their food at the proper time;

When You open Your hand, they are satisfied with good things.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

O, Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy;

In Your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief.

Do not bring Your servant into judgment,

For no one living is righteous before You.

As we look into the mirror of God’s holy law, we see that we have sinned against Him countless times and in countless ways. We are

worthy of His wrath and deserve eternal punishment. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sin before God in the words of Psalm 51: 4. **“Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love; according to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are proved right when You speak and justified when You judge. Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.”**

Yet God has forgiven our sin, not because of our worth or work, but purely through His grace. Our heavenly Father has sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to be our substitute and bear our sin and guilt. Your sins? God remembers them no more! Jesus washed them away! You are now His own pure child! This is God’s faithful Word and promise.

Amen!

PRAYER

Almighty God, most merciful Father, who opens Your hand and satisfies the desire of every living thing, **we give You most humble and hearty thanks that You have crowned the fields with Your blessing and have permitted us once more to gather in the fruits of the earth.**

We now ask You to bless and protect the living seed of Your Word sown in our hearts that in the plentiful fruits of righteousness we may always present to You an acceptable thank offering with worship and praise;

through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



We hear the words of our gracious Lord

First Bible Reading

2 Samuel 7:18-22

18 Then King David went and sat before the Lord and said: Who am I, Lord God? And what is my house that You have brought me to this point? 19 Yet this was a small thing in Your eyes, Lord God. You have also spoken about the house of Your servant for a long time into the future. Is this the law for the man, Lord God? 20 What more can David say to You? You know Your servant, Lord God. 21 Because of Your word and according to the plan of Your heart, You have carried out this great thing in order to make Your servant aware of it. 22 Therefore, You are great, Lord God, because there is none like You. There is no God except You, in keeping with everything we have heard with our ears.

Psalm 138

tune: O Welt, Ich Muss Dich Lassen

**Your praises, God, I'm bringing; my heart with joy is singing
its thanks for gifts outpoured.**

**Now, in Your presence kneeling, again for grace appealing,
in quietness I wait Your word.**

**When deepest need had felled me, Your steadfast love upheld me;
my urgent prayer You heard.
When trouble sore assailed me, Your mercy never failed me.
You strengthened me and I endured.**

Second Bible Reading

Philippians 4:4-9

4 Rejoice in the Lord always! I will say it again: Rejoice! 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6 Do not worry about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if anything is excellent, and if anything is praiseworthy, think about these things. 9 The things that you learned, received, heard, and saw in me: Keep doing these things. And the God of peace will be with you.

Psalm 138

tune: O Welt, Ich Muss Dich Lassen

**Though You, O God, are holy, yet You regard the lowly
and raise them from the dust.
Your promise holds forever: "I will forsake You never!"
My God, my rock, in You I trust.**

**All peoples shall acclaim You, and worshiping shall name You
the God of time and space.
And I will join my praises with hymns the whole world raises
to You, the God of boundless grace.**

Third Bible Reading

Matthew 8:1-4

1 When Jesus came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed Him. 2 A man with leprosy came and knelt before Him and said, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean." 3 Jesus reached out His hand and touched the man. "I am willing," He said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy. 4 Then Jesus said to him, "See that you don't tell anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."



Victory Song of the Day

Sing Praise to the LORD
tune: Hanover

**Sing praise to the LORD! Praise God in the height;
rejoice in His word, you angels of light;
O heavens, adore Him by whom You were made,
and worship before Him, in brightness arrayed.**

**Sing praise to the LORD! Praise God upon earth,
in tuneful accord, all you of new birth;
praise Him who has brought you His grace from above,
praise Him who has taught you to sing of His love.**

**Sing praise to the LORD! All things that give sound,
each jubilant chord, re-echo around;
loud organs, His glory proclaim in deep tone,
and trumpets, the story of what He has done.**

**Sing praise to the LORD! Thanksgiving and song
to Him be outpoured all ages along;
for love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation, sing praise to the LORD!**

Instruction—Psalm 150



Praise the Lord 1 Hallelujah! Praise God in His sanctuary. Praise Him in His mighty heavens. 2 Praise Him for His powerful acts; praise Him for His abundant greatness. 3 Praise Him with trumpet blast; praise Him with harp and lyre. 4 Praise Him with tambourine and dance; praise Him with flute and strings. 5 Praise Him with resounding cymbals; praise Him with clashing cymbals. 6 Let everything that breathes praise the Lord. Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord!

We Respond to our Lord's Goodness

The First Article (Creation)

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

What does this mean?

I believe that God created me and all that exists, and that He gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears and all my members, my mind and all my abilities.

And I believe that God still preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, property and home, spouse and children, land, cattle, and all I own, and all I need to keep my body and life.

God also preserves me by defending me against all danger, guarding and protecting me from all evil.

All this God does only because He is my good and merciful Father in heaven, and not because I have earned or deserved it.

**For all this I ought to thank and praise, to serve and obey Him.
This is most certainly true.**

Gathering of Offering

Offering Song

Sing to the Lord of Harvest
tune: Wie Lieblich Ist Der Maien
CW21 508 stanzas 1 & 3

**Sing to the Lord of harvest, sing songs of love and praise;
with joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise.
By Him the rolling seasons in fruitful order move;
Sing to the Lord of harvest a joyous song of love.**

**Bring to this sacred altar the gifts His goodness gave,
the golden sheaves of harvest, the souls Christ died to save.
Your hearts lay down before Him when at His feet you fall,
and with your lives adore Him who gave His life for all.**

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

God's love is everlasting.

For the harvest of food for both man and creature; for those who work the ground; for machinery to plant and gather seed from the land; for energy to work long hours while it is day:

We thank You, O God.

For the cool fall weather; for time spent together enjoying the days before winter; for laughter and love:

We thank You, O God.

For living life knowing that we are forgiven; for striving to make our lives a time of thanksgiving for Your blessings; for friends to build us up and family to support us:

We thank You, O God.

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

God's love is everlasting.

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.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is My blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."



Distribution Songs

- 611 Joyously I'll Praise My Savior
- 505 For the Beauty of the Earth

PRAYER

Lord, keep at the forefront of our minds that all the blessings we receive come from Your hand.

Be with us as we leave church tonight to go out into the world with praise in our hearts and thanksgiving on our lips for all that You do for both our bodies and souls. Amen.

BLESSING

Parting Song

Now Thank We All Our God
CW21 597

**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 mother's arms has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love And still is ours today.**

**Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever-joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us
and keep us in His grace and guide us when perplexed
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.**

**All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
the Son, and Him who reigns with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**



*A blessed Thanksgiving to all of you
from all your called workers and their families!*

*May the Lord move each of us to reflect upon
the blessings from our Lord and move us
to be His thankful people!*

Our mission is simple and bold:

We seek to grow in faith and knowledge of our Savior
Jesus. We want to make Him known to others so
they, too, might share in the joy Jesus won for them.

Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church and School

A member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

10611 State Highway 13 South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI, USA 54494

WWW.1GOODSHEPHERD.ORG

Our called workers: ECM Teacher/Director Amanda Irwin
Educator/Principal Donna L. Tullberg
Pastor John T. Melke
Pastor Paul A. Tullberg



Christian Aid and Relief

WELS Christian Aid and Relief Disaster + Humanitarian Aid

WELS Christian Aid and Relief is one of our synod's compassion ministries. Our mission is to reflect Christ's love to those who are hurting or in need. We carry out this mission through three main activities:

Disaster Relief - When a natural disaster strikes we work with our congregations and missions in the impacted area to help the church,

members, and local community clean up and rebuild. We do this by providing funding, equipment, and volunteer labor when appropriate.

Humanitarian Aid - We partner with WELS Home and World Missions to provide aid and assistance to those in need. This aid takes many forms such as wells for the thirsty, food for the hungry, medical clinics for the sick, and school supplies for underprivileged kids. The projects not only alleviate suffering, but they help develop relationships between the missionaries and the local people and often lead to opportunities for sharing the gospel.

Personal Financial Grants - We work with our congregations to assist members and prospects who are experiencing a major medical or financial crisis.

“Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth” (1 John 3:18).

“This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God” (2 Corinthians 9:12).

The mission of Christian Aid and Relief is drawn from this scriptural encouragement: “As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers” (Galatians 6:10). Because of Jesus’ saving work, we are eager to reflect his love and compassion to those in need. WELS Christian Aid and Relief is not just a charitable organization. It is a “means of grace ministry.” It is our continual prayer that through our ministry the Lord will open many doors for proclamation of the soul-saving gospel.