



St. John Lutheran Church

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Lake Dr
Houghton Lake,
MI 48629
989-366-5164

5:00 — Thanksgiving Eve



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November 27, 2024

Welcome

to St. John Lutheran Church and our Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service. We are so glad you have chosen to join us today and we pray your time with us will fill you with the love our Lord has for you.

Today's service includes the Lord's Supper. If you are a first-time visitor and wish to receive Holy Communion, please speak with one of our Elders or myself prior to service.

May God bless your worship with us today,
Paul Kruse, Pastor

E-mail: paul@stjohnhl.com

Mobile: 989-992-6030

***Compelled by the Love of Christ to Live, Learn,
Share, and Serve.***

Our Vision is to inspire the vibrant experience of Christian faith in our community, to all generations, wherever they may be.

Service Setting for Today

Preludes

Creative Worship

"I Thank God"

Wandering into the night Wanting a place to hide
This weary soul This bag of bones
I try with all of my might But I just can't win the fight
I'm slowly drifting a vagabond

And just when I ran out of the road
I met a man I didn't know
And He told me that I was not alone

You picked me up You turned me around
And placed my feet on solid ground
I thank the Master I thank the Savior
Because You healed my heart You changed my name
Forever free I'm not the same
I thank the Master I thank the Savior I thank God

I cannot deny what I've seen Got no choice but to believe
My doubts are burnin' Like ashes in the wind
So so long to my old friends Burden and bitterness
You can just keep them moving *Nah you ain't welcome here (Spoken)*

From now till I walk streets of gold
I'll sing of how You saved my soul
This wayward son has found his way back home

You picked me up You turned me around
And placed my feet on solid ground
I thank the Master I thank the Savior
Because You healed my heart You changed my name
Forever free I'm not the same
I thank the Master I thank the Savior I thank God

Hell lost another one I am free I am free I am free
Hell lost another one I am free I am free I am free
Hell lost another one I am free I am free I am free

Hell lost another one I am free I am free
You picked me up You turned me around
And placed my feet on solid ground
I thank the Master I thank the Savior
Because You healed my heart You changed my name
Forever free I'm not the same
I thank the Master I thank the Savior I thank God

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“Thank You, Lord”

I come before You today, and there's just one thing that I want to say;
Thank You Lord, thank You Lord;
For all You've given to me, for all the blessings that I cannot see,
Thank You Lord, thank You Lord;
With a grateful heart, with a song of praise,
With an outstretched arm I will bless Your name.
Thank You, Lord, I just want to thank You, Lord;
Thank You, Lord, I just want to thank You, Lord; thank You, Lord.
For all You've done in my life, You took my darkness and gave me Your light;
Thank You Lord, thank You Lord;
You took my sin and my shame, You took my sickness and healed all my pain,
Thank You Lord, thank You Lord;
With a grateful heart, with a song of praise,
With an outstretched arm I will bless Your name.
Thank You, Lord, I just want to thank You, Lord;
Thank You, Lord, I just want to thank You, Lord; thank You, Lord.
Thank You, Lord, thank You, Lord;
With a grateful heart, with a song of praise,
With an outstretched arm I will bless Your name.
Thank You, Lord; I just want to thank You, Lord;
Thank You, Lord, I just want to thank You, Lord; thank You, Lord.

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Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**
P Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;
C **for His steadfast love endures forever!**
P All Your works shall give thanks to You, O LORD,
C **and all Your saints shall bless You!**
P I will give thanks to Your name, O LORD, for it is good.
C **We, Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You forever; from generation to generation we will recount Your praise.**

Confession and Absolution

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C **to God my exceeding joy.**
P If we confess our sins, our God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
C **Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**
P Let us then confess our sins to God, our gracious Father.
C **Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, creator of all things, we confess that we are indeed sin-filled people. We are by nature sinful, and sin is present in our lives each day, in thought, word, and deed. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You require of us. We have not always lived lives that reflect thankfulness to You, the giver of all that is good. We do repent and are truly sorry for our sins. Have mercy on us because of Jesus, our Lord, who is the source of our salvation. Grant that, by the working of the Holy Spirit, we may live faithfully and with great gratitude here on earth until that time beyond time when we rejoice together in Your eternal presence.**
P Our God has promised to hear us and to grant forgiveness to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him for His grace and mercy. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. May you be kept steadfast in the Holy Spirit, living each day in thankfulness to God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

Song of Praise

“Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart”

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.

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.”

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son. Chorus:

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.”
Give thanks, give thanks.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. Almighty God, Your mercies are new every morning and You graciously provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

Deuteronomy 8:1-10

¹ “The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. ² And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness,

that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. ³And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. ⁴Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. ⁵Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. ⁶So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. ⁷For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, ⁸a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, ⁹a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. ¹⁰And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Philippians 4:6-20

⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable— if anything is excellent or praiseworthy— think about such things. ⁹Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me— ¹⁰I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. ¹¹I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹²I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether

living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength. ¹⁴ Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. ¹⁵ Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; ¹⁶ for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. ¹⁷ Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. ¹⁸ I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰ To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL *Psalm 145:15–16; 118:1*

P The eyes of all look to You, O Lord,

G and You give them their food in due season.

P You open Your hand

G and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

P Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

G His steadfast love endures forever.

Holy Gospel

Luke 17:11–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

¹¹ On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and

give praise to God except this foreigner?" And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

📖 This is the Gospel of the Lord.

📢 **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon Song

"In Christ Alone"

In Christ Alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.

My Comforter my all in all, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone Who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless Babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Til on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory, Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
for I am His and He is mine, Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man Can ever pluck me from His hand;
'Til He returns or calls me home Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Song Ending:

No power of hell, no scheme of man Can ever pluck me from His hand;
'Til He returns or calls me home Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand

Message

"God's Peacemakers"/Philippians 4:4-13

Nicene Creed

☩ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Offering

Would you like to give online? Scan the QR code and it will take you directly to our donation site.



Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs, giving thanks to the Lord, for He is good ... Gracious God, gratefully we remember Your bountiful gifts to all of us. We remember Your many acts of kindness to Your people through all ages. We bless You for the orderly progression of the seasons and thank You for the bountiful harvest of the fruits of the earth. We thank You,

☩ for Your steadfast love endures forever.

P Let us pray for the church, here and around the world, giving thanks for the joyful message of the Gospel as it is faithfully proclaimed from generation to

generation.

Almighty God, we thank You for the church, where Your Holy Spirit gathers us as Your people to receive Your gifts and celebrate Your goodness. Bless the work of missionaries, teachers, health workers, and all others who give witness to Your unchanging love. We thank You,

G for Your steadfast love endures forever.

- P** Let us pray for the world in which we live, giving thanks for the amazing place in which we live and asking that we may readily share the bounty we receive from the hand of the Lord.

Caring God, we thank You for the world in which we live as together we pray for the community of nations around the globe. Continue to give us all things needful and grant that we may be good stewards of the earth. Grant that our homes be places of love and care and our neighborhoods be centers of welcome and compassion. We thank You,

G for Your steadfast love endures forever.

- P** Let us pray for those people who are blessings to us in our homes, in our communities, and beyond, remembering our local emergency workers, our national defenders, and the many workers in the agricultural fields across our nation and beyond.

Giver of all good gifts, we thank You for the faithful labor of people living out their vocations for our welfare. Bless the military forces of our nation, those stationed both at home and abroad, who selflessly serve to defend our nation in challenging times and who guarantee our safety in times of peace. We remember those whose labor brings a rich variety of food to our tables in this and in every season. We thank You,

G for Your steadfast love endures forever.

- P** Let us pray for those with special needs for compassion at this time, that they may know the care of the Lord and our care as well. Let us also bring thankfully to mind those who have completed their earthly journey and now rejoice in the Lord's eternal kingdom.

Lord of time and of eternity, we remember in our petitions those with special

concerns and needs including the ill, the hospitalized, and the homebound, those who sorrow, the unemployed and underemployed. Grant that we find purpose and blessing in assisting those who need our concern and our care. On this Day of Thanksgiving, we also recall those no longer among us on earth, who now rejoice in the glorious light of Your heavenly kingdom. May we be inspired by their faithful witness and seek to be Your agents of blessing during our earthly lives as we look forward to that time when we rejoice together and give You eternal thanks and praise. We thank You,

G for Your steadfast love endures forever. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

The Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

G We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us remember and give thanks to the Lord our God.

G It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name now and forever. Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray...

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

G 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.

The Words of Our Lord

The Lord gave this Holy Sacrament to His Church so that His followers might receive His love and forgiveness in a visible, tangible way. When the Church celebrates this Sacrament, believers are also making a public declaration of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 11:26). Holy Communion is offered every Sunday at St. John Lutheran, but because it is possible to receive the Lord's Supper to one's detriment (1 Cor. 11:27-29), we ask all who wish to partake of it to examine themselves as follows:

- 1. Do I believe that I am a sinner and therefore deserve God's punishment?*
- 2. Am I truly sorry that by my sins I have offended God?*
- 3. Do I believe that God accepts the death of Jesus as payment for my sins and therefore forgives my sins for Jesus' sake alone and not because of any goodness or effort on my part?*
- 4. Do I intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to turn from my sins?*
- 5. Do I seek to forgive others as God has forgiven me?*
- 6. Do I believe Christ's own Word that His body and blood are truly given and received in and with the bread and wine (Matt. 26:26-28)?*

If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and can answer "yes" to the above questions, you are invited to receive Holy Communion with the assurance of all the blessings Scripture promises.

Distribution Songs

"Goodness of God"

I love You Lord. Oh, Your mercy never fails me.

All my days I've been held in Your hands.

From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head,

I will sing of the goodness of God.

All my life You have been faithful. All my life You have been so, so good.

With every breath that I am able I will sing of the goodness of God.

I love Your voice. You have led me through the fire.

In darkest night, You are close like no other.

I've known You as a father, I've known You as a friend.

I have lived in the goodness of God.

All my life You have been faithful. All my life You have been so, so good.

With every breath that I am able I will sing of the goodness of God.

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.

Your goodness is running after, It's running after me

With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now;

I give You everything.

Your goodness is running after, It's running after me.

All my life You have been faithful. All my life You have been so, so good.

With every breath that I am able I will sing of the goodness of God.
I will sing of the goodness of God.

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Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us bless God together.

G **My soul, give thanks to the Lord; all my being, bless His holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, and never forget all His blessings. It is He who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion, and who fills your life with good things. Give thanks to the Lord, all His works, in every place where He rules. My soul, give thanks to the Lord! Give praise to the Father Almighty, to His Son, Jesus Christ, the Lord, and to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts both now and forever. Amen.**

Prayer

P Let us pray. Almighty God, You crown the fields with Your blessing and permit us to gather the fruits of the earth. As stewards of Your creation, may we receive Your gifts in humble thankfulness and share Your bounty with those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

G **Amen.**

HYMN

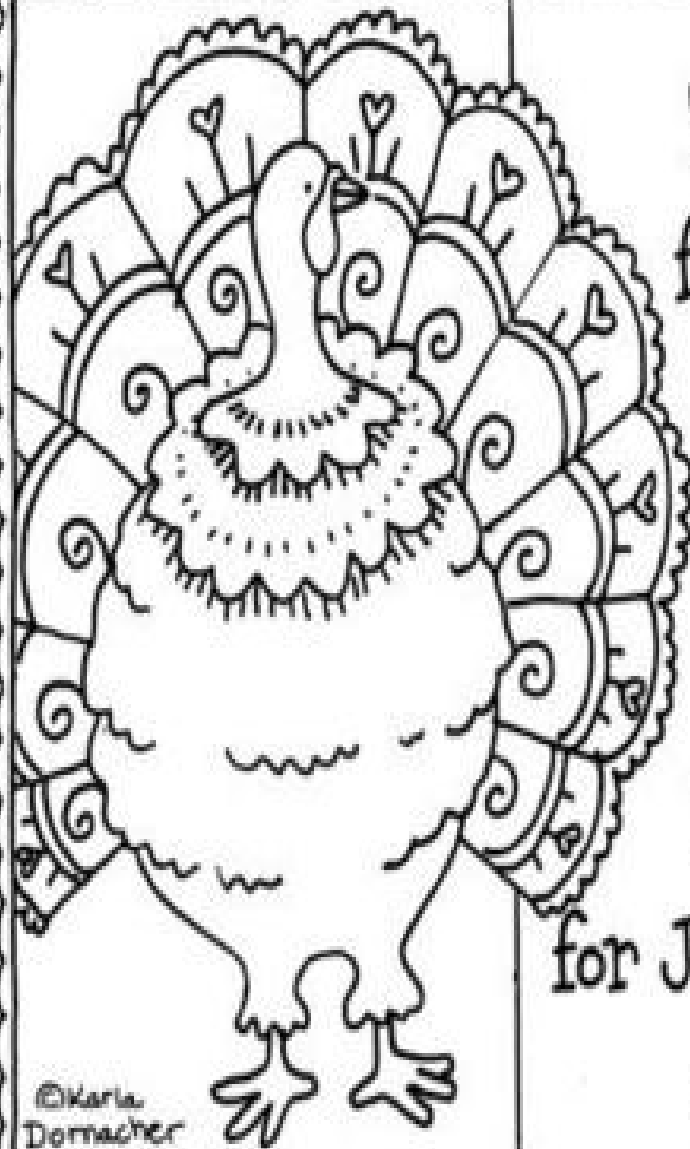
“Now Thank We All Our God” *LSB 895*

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.

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.

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Thank You God
for everything -
for family,
friends
and fun -
But most of all
for Jesus, My Savior
and Your Son.

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