

WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER

November 24, 2021

The Day Before Thanksgiving

OPENING SENTENCES

One: Come, let us sing to the Lord;

All: let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation!

One: Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving;

All: let us make a joyful noise to the Lord with songs of praise!

(Psalm 95:1-2)

OPENING PRAYER

One: Most gracious God, according to your wisdom deep waters are opened up
and clouds drop gentle moisture.

We praise you for the return of planting and harvest seasons, for the fertility of the soil,
for the harvesting of crops, and for all other blessings which you, in your generosity,
pour out on your people.

Give us a full understanding of your mercy, and the courage to be respectful,
holy, and obedient to you throughout all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

SILENCE (Be still and aware of God's presence within and all around...)

PSALM 65 (*read in unison*)

You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; to you shall vows be fulfilled.

To you, the one who answers prayer, to you all flesh shall come.

Our sins are stronger than we are, but you blot out our transgressions.

Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!

They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.

Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,

O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

You make firm the mountains by your power; you are girded about with might.

You still the roaring of the seas,

the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;

you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.

You visit the earth and water it abundantly;

you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;

with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.

May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy.

May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;

let them shout for joy and sing.

SCRIPTURE READING

Deuteronomy 8:7-18

One: . . . The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

(A period of silence follows for personal reflection.)

SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 4:4-9

One: . . . The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

(A period of silence follows for personal reflection.)

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

One: Give thanks to the Lord who is good.

All: God's love is everlasting.

One: Come, let us praise God joyfully.

All: Let us come to God with thanksgiving.

One: For the good world;
for things great and small, beautiful and awesome;
for seen and unseen splendors;

All: thank you, God.

One: For human life;
for talking and moving and thinking together;
for common hopes and hardships shared
from birth until our dying;

All: thank you, God.

One: For work to do and strength to work;
for the comradeship of labor;
for exchanges of good humor and encouragement;

All: thank you, God.

One: For marriage;
for the mystery and joy of flesh made one;
for mutual forgiveness and burdens shared;
for secrets kept in love;

All: thank you, God.

One: For family;
for living together and eating together;
for family amusements and family pleasures;

All: thank you, God.

One: For children;
for their energy and curiosity;
for their brave play and startling frankness;
for their sudden sympathies;

All: thank you, God.

One: For the young;
for their high hopes;
for their irreverence toward worn-out values;
for their search for freedom;
for their solemn vows;

All: thank you, God.

One: For growing up and growing old;
for wisdom deepened by experience;
for rest in leisure;
and for time made precious by its passing;

All: thank you, God.

One: For your help in times of doubt and sorrow;
for healing our diseases;
for preserving us in temptation and danger;

All: thank you, God.

One: For the church into which we have been called;
for the good news we receive by Word and Sacrament;
for our life together in the Lord;

All: we praise you, God.

One: For your Holy Spirit,
who guides our steps and brings us gifts of faith and love;
who prays in us and prompts our grateful worship;

All: we praise you, God.

One: Above all, O God, for your Son Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and lives again for our salvation;
for our hope in him;
and for the joy of serving him;

**All: we thank and praise you, Eternal God,
for all your goodness to us.**

One: Give thanks to the Lord, who is good.

All: God's love is everlasting.

—The Worshipbook (1970)

THE 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.

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

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

CLOSING RESPONSES

One: In the end as in the beginning, God is God:

Loved by us, wanted by us,

All: Praised by us, served by us;

One: Filling the folk with the gifts of the Spirit,

All: making them whole for the good of the earth.

One: For bread and wine, this place and this time,

All: Thanks be to God.

One: For the hands I touch which are not mine,

All: Thanks be to God.

One: For the peace I am promised which the world can not destroy,

All: Thanks be to God.

One: For the hope of life forever through Christ's death and resurrection's joy,

All: Thanks be to God.

One: For all God has done without us,

All: For all God wants to do with us,

One: For all Christ loves around us,

All: For all Christ loves within us, thanks be to God.

One: For all the Spirit wants to bring us,

All: For where the Spirit wants to send us,

One: For all the church has been despite us,

**All: For what the church may yet be through us,
thanks be to God.**

One: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.