

Thanksgiving Eve Worship



Thanksgiving Eve

November 24, 2021

7:00 pm

**St. John's United Church of Christ
Orwigsburg, PA**

Thanksgiving Day Eve
November 24, 2021

Meditation

“You simply will not be the same person two months from now after consciously giving thanks each day for the abundance that exists in your life.”

Sarah Ban Breathnach

Chimes

Prelude

Give Thanks

Tracey Holler, flute

Welcome and Invocation

✠ Opening Hymn

Thanksgiving Medley

Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
mount of Thy redeeming love.

Here I find my greatest treasure;
hither by thy help I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
bought me with his precious blood

Praise to God, immortal praise,
for the love that crowns our
bounteous Source of every joy,
let thy praise our tongues employ:
All to thee our God we owe,
Source from whom all blessings flow
For the love that crowns our days
Praise to God immortal praise

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners!
Jesus! Lover of my soul;
Friends may fail me, foes assail me,
He, my Savior, makes me whole.
Hallelujah! what a Savior!
Hallelujah! what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.

Thank you for the cross, Lord
Thank you for the price You paid
Bearing all my sin and shame
In love You came
And gave amazing grace

Thank you for this love, Lord
Thank you for the nail pierced hands
Washed me in Your cleansing flow
Now all I know
Your forgiveness and embrace

Worthy is the Lamb
Seated on the throne
Crown You now with many crowns
You reign victorious

High and lifted up
Jesus Son of God

The Darling of Heaven crucified
Worthy is the Lamb
Worthy is the Lamb
Worthy is the Lamb

This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh, Jesus, I sing for
All that You've done for me

✠Call to Worship

In the midst of difficulty, the Lord sets a table of rejoicing for us.

Though the world seems focused on turmoil, we will praise God!

Our lives should be witnesses to God's goodness and power.

Our hearts should encompass compassion and service to God's people.

Help us to be your workers and witnesses in today's world, O Lord.

All: Enable us all to be faithful and strong for you.

(The people may be seated)

✠Prayer of Confession *(read responsively)*

Thanksgiving Day provides an opportunity for us to take stock of God's blessings, and to reflect on our response to those blessings. Our Creator, you have made an intricate and diverse world, and set us to cultivate it reverently and responsibly:

Forgive us when we forget our connection with all of creation.

Our Creator, you have made a world of abundance and intend for us to share so that all may have their "daily bread".

Forgive us when we lose the sense of hospitality and community.

Our Creator, you have sent us Jesus, the "Bread of Life" to satisfy our spiritual hunger and thirst.

Forgive us when we do not respond to his justice and mercy.

Every day and all day let us celebrate your goodness.

Forgive us when we fail to turn to you in prayer.

Every day and all day let us shape our very lives by focusing our minds on what is beautiful and worthy of praise.

Forgive us when we forget that you make all things possible. Amen.

† Assurance of Forgiveness

We have offered to God the concerns of our hearts and minds. We trust that God not only hears our prayers but in God's almighty wisdom and awareness of our needs does answer our prayers. We are a forgiven people. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Bible Readings

Joel 2: 21-27; Matthew 6: 25-33

Kay Jones

Pastor's Message

"Life is a Gift"

Pastor Jeff

Giving our Gifts to God

† Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Sharing our Prayers and Gratitude

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

✠ Closing Hymn

Now Thank We All our God
Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

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

All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son and Spirit blest,
who reign in highest heaven
the one eternal God,
whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

✠ Sending Forth and Final Blessing

✠ Chimes/Meditation

Postlude

Praise to the Lord - Joachim Neander