



With
thankful
hearts



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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"Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together."

November 22, 2020

Thanksgiving Sunday

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Rejoice! The Lord Is King

arr. Lloyd Larson

"Rejoice! The Lord Is King" by Shirley Erena Murray
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GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

Call to Worship

Dave Kercove

One: We come before God.

All: Thankful for our Lord's presence in the best of times, and when life seems unbearable.

One: Come, let us give thanks to God for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: We are thankful for joyful children that give life zest, grief that reminds us of the power of love, and difficulties that bring us closer to God and one another.

One: Come, let us humble ourselves before our Maker!

All: The Lord is our shepherd, and with thankful hearts we will walk with him always.

Opening Prayer

Dave Kercove

God of abundance, we give thanks for your presence with us, realizing that we are not grateful nearly enough. Help us to better express our hearts and minds. For grace, forgiveness, and understanding, we give you thanks. May we give and receive, teach and learn, guide and follow in our

journey with your Son. We are grateful for this time of worship together, to be the church through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Song

Come, ye thankful people

#94

Come, ye thankful people, come!,
raise the song of harvest home;
All is safely gathered in
ere the winter storms begin.
God, our maker, doth provide
for our wants to be supplied.
Come to God's own temple, come.
Raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field,
fruit unto God's praise we yield;
wheat and tares together sown,
unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear;
Lord of harvest, grant that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come,
and shall take the harvest home;
from the field shall in that day
all offenses purge away,
giving angels charge at last
in the fire the tares to cast;
but the fruitful ears to store
in the garner evermore.

Then, O church triumphant, come.
Raise the song of harvest home;
All is safely gathered in
free from sorrow, free from sin,
there, forever purified
in God's presence to abide.
Come, ten thousand angels, come!
Raise the song of harvest home.

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Children's Story

Song

We gather together

#17

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing.
He chastens and hastens his will to make known.
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine.
So from the beginning the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be thine!

We all do extol thee, thou Leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation.
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

Litany of Seedtime and Harvest

Rural Worship

One: Almighty God, Creator and sustainer of all, Giver of every good and perfect gift; For the joy of seedtime and the riches of harvest;

All: We give you thanks, O God.

One: For life-filled seed and sacred earth, for blessed sun and blessing rain;

All: We give you thanks, O God.

One: For the bounty of field and garden, forest and sea;

All: We give you thanks, O God.

One: For divine love that blesses our lives and speaks to our souls, reconciling us to you and to our neighbor;

All: We give you thanks, O God.

One: Help us that our farms and homes, schools and workplaces, our bodies, minds, and strength may be used as a sacred trust from thee;

All: We pray, O God.

One: That we may be good stewards of all these your blessings, and that we may so share our bounty with those in need across the world as to cause all lands to break forth into songs of thanksgiving.

All: We pray, O God.

Song *Give thanks with a grateful heart* #1030

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.

"Give thanks with a grateful heart" by Henry Smith
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Thoughts on Giving

Kahlil Gibran

All that you have shall someday be given:
Therefore give now, that the season of giving may be
yours and not your inheritors.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Special Music

Jesus Shall Reign

Arr. Larry Shackley

Scripture Lesson

Psalm 95:1-7a

(NRSV)

O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it,
and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

Sermon

“Thanksgiving, An American Tradition”

GO IN GOD’S NAME

Closing Hymn

Now thank we all our God

#86

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.

Oh, may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,

to keep us safe in grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world in 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.

Benediction

Postlude

Count Your Blessings

Edwin Excell



PastorDavid Whitten
Worship Leader.....Alyce Newman
Children's Story Haley Myers
Special Music..... Bob Phillips
Guitarist.....David Whitten
Flutist..... Sarah Beers
Organist/Pianist..... Bob Phillips
Producer..... Kevin Beers