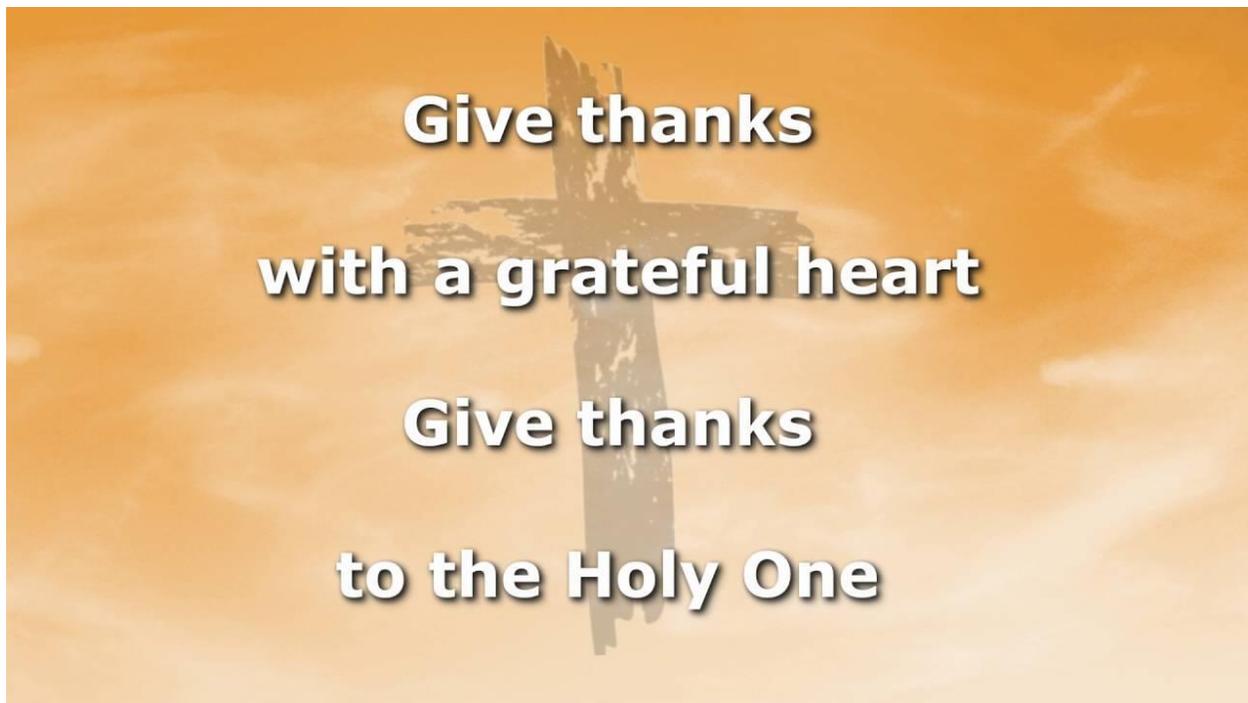


Our Savior Lutheran Church
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 15, 2021

Thought: We enjoy thinking of ourselves as fairly much on our own. What we have is what we've earned. Gratitude, thankfulness is in short supply. Therefore, it's hard for us to understand how Paul can exhort Christians at Ephesus to "give thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything." How is that possible? Particularly in our times of difficulty, when things come our way that cause us pain, it is hard to conceive of our being able to give thanks to God "in the name of Jesus Christ." Christ teaches us to see our lives not as our possessions or as the sum of our achievements but rather as gifts from a gracious God.



Prelude – Lillian Pinkston

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Sharing of the Peace

Call to Worship

A: Let us bless the Lord at all times,

C: So that God's praise is continually in our mouths.

A: Let us taste and see that the Lord is good;

C: Happy are those who take refuge in God.

A: As we come to worship the Lord our God,

C: Let us seek, and listen, and fear, and rejoice.

-adapted from Psalm 34:1-8, *passim*

Gathering Music

Come Ye Thankful People Come – (Hymn Chart with Lyrics, contemporary)

<https://youtu.be/imK0j7eBJsc>

#693 ELW – Lillian Pinkston

Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home. All be safely gathered in ere the winter storm 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 his praise to 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 whole-some grain and pure may be.

Invocation

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son,+ and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer of Confession

P: The world around us is changing so fast, O God, and we confess that we find ourselves in search of some path to follow that will lead us to what the values of the present tell us we should desire.

A time of Silence and Reflection

But we search for a thankful and wise heart that thou dost not despise.

C: We look for power when we should seek wisdom. We run after those who promise wealth, material success, and self-advancement, turning our backs on the way of self-giving love that has given us life itself, to which your Son is ever calling us. For our failures of focus and constancy, we humbly repent, and we ask your forgiveness.

P: In Christ we are led back to the path of discipleship, under the abundant Mercy who is your Son, even Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the people of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen and Amen!

Hymn of Praise

This Is My Father's World – Fountainview Academy

<https://youtu.be/N3ZVL0LMRMw>

Prayer of the Day

A: The world around us is changing so fast, and we often find ourselves adrift, unsure of where to go, of what to believe.

C: Yet even among the complexities and perplexities of our lives, you alone, O God, remain: steadfast, constant, gracious, merciful. You call us to follow your Son along the way of discipleship on a path not tied to things that flash to momentary brilliance and then are gone. In you we find wisdom and strength and food for the journey: the Bread of Heaven. For this great gift, and for your abundant Mercy in Christ, we offer you our thanks and praise.

Amen.

The Word

Old Testament reading – Proverbs 9:1-6

Invited to dine at wisdom's feast

1 Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars.

2 She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine,
she has also set her table.

3 She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls from the highest places in the town,

4 “You that are simple, turn in here! “To those without sense she says,

5 “Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed.

6 Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight.”

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 34:9-14

Those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good. (Ps. 34:10)

⁹Fear the Lord, you saints of the Lord,
for those who fear the Lord lack nothing.

¹⁰**The lions are in want and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.**

¹¹Come, children, and listen to me;

I will teach you reverence for the Lord.

¹²**Who among you takes pleasure in life
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?**

¹³Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from lying words.

¹⁴**Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.**

Epistle reading – Ephesians 5:15-20

Filled with the Spirit, sing thanks to God

<https://youtu.be/dDVjzlAhm4k>

15 Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, 16 making the most of the time, because the days are evil. 17 So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 18 Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, 19 as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, 20 giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Holy Gospel – John 6:51-58

Christ the true food and drink

The Holy Gospel according to John

Glory to You, O Lord

[Jesus said,] 51 “I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.” 52 The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” 53 So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. 54 Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; 55 for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. 56 Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. 57 Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. 58 This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Time

<https://youtu.be/uXnR3VVTosc>

Homily – “Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart”

<https://youtu.be/-raP7vgqZWs>

Unison: Psalm 51:15-17 *O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give burnt offering you would not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.*

Music

Praise and Thanksgiving, Father We Offer – Distant Voices

https://youtu.be/zjRf3_QZQWE

#689 ELW – Lillian Pinkston

Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer for all things living, you have made good: harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard, hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.

Then will your blessing reach every people, freely confessing your gracious hand. Where you are reigning, no one will hunger; your love sustaining showers the land.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead,
on the third day, he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Amen

Prayers of Intercession

P: Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: God of wisdom, enlighten your church. Guide theologians, biblical scholars, authors, and seminary professors as they seek greater knowledge and invite others into deeper understanding. Teach us to ask faithful questions and open our minds to new ideas. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God of creation, mend the earth. Cool warming oceans and preserve melting ice caps. Increase our awareness of changing climate patterns and reveal new approaches to the ecological challenges we face. Shield those in the path of hurricanes or tropical storms (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God of all nations, direct our leaders. Grant them courage to lay aside political grudges and renew their determination to address difficult conflicts. Guide them in the work of reconciliation. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God of compassion, tend to the wounded. Rescue those tormented by mental illness or mired in addiction. Ease the anxiety of those struggling with dementia. Come quickly to help all who are grieving and all those who suffer (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God of beauty, inspire artists. Bless those whose visual and musical gifts enliven this assembly (*especially*). Bless the creative work of poets, hymnwriters, composers, painters, sculptors, and others that enrich our worship and daily life. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God of resurrection, bring us to new life. Give us the living bread from heaven through which we abide in your love, and on the last day raise us with (*Mary, mother of Jesus, name/s, and*) all the saints to eternal life. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Offering and Offertory Prayer

A: We are filled with praise, O God

C: singing and making melody to the Lord in our hearts.

A: Giving thanks to the Father

C: at all times and for everything

A: in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also, with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

Lamb of God – Catholic Mass Song

<https://youtu.be/LcgpnvQPoaQ>

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

*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,
for ever and ever. Amen.*

Distribution

Communion Music – Lillian Pinkston

OR

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

https://youtu.be/Bk_7wUR2Wdg

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

A: We have come to receive true food.

C: We have come to receive drink.

A: You have given us your flesh to eat.

C: You have given us your blood to drink.

A: And we have received even more:

C: the promise of eternal life!

A: We bless you now and evermore.

C: Amen.

Benediction – Numbers 6

Sending Music

Libera in America – Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

<https://youtu.be/MAkXHhs9vOc>

#836 ELW – Lillian Pinkston

Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love! Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, praising thee, their sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away. Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays, stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird, and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine; teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine!

Dismissal

A: With thankful hearts we go to serve.

C: Gratefully, we share the bounty of God's love!

Postlude – Lillian Pinkston

*Give thanks
with a grateful heart*