

November 26, 2025

Thanksgiving Eve

I will
praise
God's name in song
and glorify him with
thanksgiving

Psalm 69:30



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

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www.salemlutheran.org

Thanksgiving Eve

*Theme: We give thanks
for Daily Bread*

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:

Gracious Father in heaven, every good and perfect gift comes from you. Your Word reveals your power and goodness to us, and your plans for every living thing. Accept our thanksgiving for all our blessings as we worship tonight in Jesus' name. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY:

We confess almost every week in worship that God is "the maker of heaven and earth." He did not simply create the world and then leave us to ourselves, though. God continues to protect and provide for his people. This is the reason Jesus taught us to pray, "Give us today our daily bread" in the Lord's Prayer. In tonight's service of Thanksgiving we remember the blessings God gives to us as "daily bread." We give thanks tonight to the one who blesses us with every blessing.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Worship Leader: Pastor Ryan Wolfe

Organ/Piano: Luke Dorn

Choir Director: Luke Dorn

Choir Accompanist: Jessica Klatt

Preservice: Brian Shult, Luke Dorn, Allison Dorn

A THANKSGIVING THOUGHT:

The British author Charles Dickens said that we are somewhat mixed up here in America. Instead of having just one Thanksgiving Day each year, we should have 364. *"Use that one day just for complaining and griping," he said. "Use the other 364 days to thank God each day for the many blessings he has showered upon you."*

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Order of Worship



HYMN: We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer

CW 609



1 We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers, we bless you;
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.
and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore you, we kneel and a - dore you;
When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,
With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us;



we bless your ho - ly name, — glad prais - es we sing.
and with your help, O Lord, — our bat - tles we win.
to you, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Opening Words & Confession

M: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: O you who hear prayer,

C: To you all flesh will come. (*Psalm 65:2*)

M: When we were overwhelmed by sins,

C: You forgave our transgressions. (*Psalm 65:3*)

M: You answer us with awesome deeds of righteousness, O God our Savior,

C: You are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas. (*Ps 65:5*)

M: Let us confess our sins to our gracious and almighty Father:

C: We confess to you that we have sinned against you in our thoughts, words, and deeds. We have sinned also against family members and loved ones, friends and neighbors, and many others with whom we have daily contact. For the sake of your son Jesus, who died to redeem us from our sins, forgive us all we have done wrong and empower us by the Holy Spirit to live a life pleasing to you. Amen.

M: As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

God Gives Us "Daily Bread"

The Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer

C: Give us today our daily bread.

M: *What does this mean?*

C: God surely gives daily bread without our asking, even to all the wicked, but we pray in this petition that he would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

M: *What, then, is meant by daily bread?*

C: Daily bread includes everything that we need for our bodily welfare, such as food and drink, clothing and shoes, house and home, land and cattle, money and goods, a godly spouse, godly children, godly workers, godly and faithful leaders, good government, good weather, peace and order, health, a good name, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

Thanksgiving

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: his mercy endures forever.

Prayer of the Day

M: 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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Hymn: Our Father, Throned in Heaven Above CW 720 sts. A, 4th, B



A Our Fa - ther, throned in heav'n a - bove, you bid us all to
 4th Give us to - day our dai - ly bread, and let us all be
 B A - men, that is, so shall it be. Make strong our faith in



live in love as mem - bers of one fam - i - ly
 clothed and fed; from hard - ship, war, and earth - ly strife,
 you that we may nev - er doubt you but be - lieve



and pray to you in u - ni - ty— teach us no thought-less
 from sick-ness, fam - ine, spare our life. Let self - ish - ness and
 that what we ask we shall re - ceive. Thus in your name and



words to say, but from our in - most hearts to pray.
 wor - ry cease that we may live in god - ly peace.
 at your word we say, "A - men, O hear us, Lord!"

The Lord Provides for All Our Needs (Psalm 145)

M: I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

C: **Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever.**

M: Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;

C: **his greatness no one can fathom.**

M: One generation will commend your works to another;

C: **they will tell of your mighty acts.**

M: They will celebrate your abundant goodness

C: **and joyfully sing of your righteousness.**

M: The LORD is good to all;

C: **he has compassion on all he has made.**

M: All you have made will praise you, O LORD;

C: **your saints will extol you.**

M: The LORD upholds all those who fall
C: **and lifts up all who are bowed down.**

M: The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time.
C: **You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.**

M: The LORD is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made.
C: **He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.**

M: My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD.
All: **Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.**



The Lord Gives Us Companionship

Scripture Reading Ecclesiastes 4:9–12

- ⁹Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor:
¹⁰If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.
But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.
¹¹Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm.
But how can one keep warm alone?
¹²Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves.
A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

Hymn: *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

CW 730 sts. 1-3, 5



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free



the fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

The Lord Gives Us Family

Scripture Reading

Genesis 1:26–28

²⁶Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

²⁷So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

Scripture Reading

Psalms 127:3–5

³Children are a heritage from the LORD, offspring a reward from him. ⁴Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one’s youth. ⁵Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. They will not be put to shame when they contend with their opponents in court.

Scripture Reading

Proverbs 17:6

⁶Children’s children are a crown to the aged,
and parents are the pride of their children.

Hymn: Oh, Blest the House

CW 760

All sing verses 1, 3, 5. Women sing verse 2. Men sing verse 4.



1 Oh, blest the house, what - e'er be - fall, where Je - sus
2 Oh, blest that house where faith is found and all in
3 Oh, blest the par - ents who give heed un - to their
4 Blest such a house, it pros - pers well; in peace and
5 Then here will I and mine to - day a sol - emn



Christ is all in all! A home that is not
hope and love a - bound; they trust their God and
chil - dren's fore - most need and wea - ry not of
joy the par - ents dwell, and in their chil - dren's
prom - ise make and say: though all the world for -



whol - ly his— how sad and poor and dark it is!
serve him still and do in all his ho - ly will.
care or cost. May none to them and heav'n be lost!
lives is shown how rich - ly God can bless his own.
sake his Word, I and my house will serve the Lord!

The Lord Gives Peace through Government

Scripture Reading

1 Peter 2:13–17

¹³Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, ¹⁴or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. ¹⁵For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. ¹⁶Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. ¹⁷Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.

Scripture Reading 1 Timothy 2:1–6

¹I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— ²for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴who wants all people to be saved and to come to a

knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time.

Stand

Hymn: God Bless Our Native Land

CW 774



1 God bless our na - tive land; firm may she ev - er stand
2 For her our prayers shall rise to God a - bove the skies;



thro' storm and night! When the wild tem - pests rave, Rul - er of
on him we wait. Thou who art ev - er nigh, guard - ing with



wind and wave, do thou our coun - try save by thy great might.
watch - ful eye, to thee a - loud we cry: God save the state!

Be seated.

The Lord Gives Forgiveness & Life

Scripture Reading

1 Peter 1:18–21

¹⁸For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. ²¹Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 8:9

⁹For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

Hymn: Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness

CW 573

All sing verses 1-2, 5-6.

Left side of church (lectern side) sings verse 3.

Right side of church (pulpit side) sings verse 4.



1 Je - sus, your blood and right - eous - ness my beau - ty
2 Bold shall I stand in that great day; who can a
3 Lord, I be - lieve your pre - cious blood, which at the
4 Lord, I be - lieve, were sin - ners more than sands up -



are, my glo - rious dress; mid flam - ing worlds, in
word a - gainst me say? Ful - ly ab - solved through
ver - y throne of God pleads for the cap - tives'
on the o - cean shore, you have for all a



these ar - rayed, with joy shall I lift up my head.
these I am from sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
lib - er - ty, was al - so shed in love for me.
ran - som paid, for all a full a - tone - ment made.

5 When from the dust of death I rise
to claim my mansion in the skies,
this then shall be my only plea:
Jesus has lived and died for me.

6 Jesus, be worshiped endlessly!
Your boundless mercy has for me,
for me and all your hands have made,
an everlasting ransom paid.

Since the Lord Gives These,
We Give Thanks!

²⁵“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

²⁸“And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ³⁰If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³²For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Choir Anthem**O Give Thanks**

Arr. By T. Alonzo

Come you thankful people come; raise the song of harvest home.
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.
God, our Maker, does 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, wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take his harvest home;
From his 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 God’s garner ever more.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to your final harvest home.
Gather all your people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,
There, forever purified, in your presence to abide.
Come with all your angels, come! Raise the glorious harvest home.

Offering



Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.

We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.



Thanksgiving Prayer of the Church

M: Lord of heaven and earth, you made all things beautiful. You have provided green forests and refreshing streams. You have arranged the orderly procession of day and night for our work and rest.

C: Thank you for the mountains and the prairies, the roaring sea, and the gentle breeze.

M: Thank you for roofs that shelter us, for clothing that protects us, and for food and drink. Thank you for our work, for projects that are done well, and for the approval of supervisors and teachers. Thank you for all who serve at night to make our days more pleasant.

C: Thank you for associates at work, for their encouragement and praise, and for the joys of human friendships.

M: Thank you for our cities and our countrysides, for farms and factories, for streets and highways, and for all of life that flows so swiftly before us.

C: Thank you for children at play, their boundless energy, and their shouts of joy and laughter.

M: Thank you for the morning greetings we receive and for all the smiles that come from faces loved by you.

C: Thank you for Christian parents, for their affection, and their care.

M: Thank you for the healing you bring when we are sick, the protection you send when we are in danger, and the comfort you offer when we are sad. [Hear our prayers for... *here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] Lead us to be thankful as we believe that in all things you work for the good of those who love you.

C: Thank you for those who help and encourage us in difficult times.

M: Thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, for his coming to us in Word and sacraments, for his giving and forgiving, and for listening to our prayers. Receive our gifts and offerings as our sacrifice of praise.

C: Lead us in thankful living today and always. Amen.

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

C: Amen.

HYMN: Now Thank We All Our God

CW 597



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,



who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;
with ever-joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us
the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,



who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
and keep us in his grace and guide us when perplexed
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;



with countless gifts of love and still is ours to-day.
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Holiday Worship Schedule



ADVENT
IMMINENT ARRIVAL

Sundays in Advent – Imminent Arrival

November 30th— Imminent Arrival of the One who Calls

December 7th—Imminent Arrival of the Judge

December 14th—Imminent Arrival of the Messiah

December 21st—Imminent Arrival of My Lord and God

Wednesdays in Advent – Salem School Presents “Christmas Greetings”

December 3rd (4pm)

December 10th (4pm)

December 17th (4pm)

(Meals provided after each service.)



Christmas Celebration – Christ the Savior is Born!



Wednesday, December 24th (3 & 5pm)—
Heavenly Hosts Sing Alleluia

Thursday, December 25th (10am)—
Holy Infant So Tender and Mild

Sunday, December 28th (normal service times)
Son of God

Sunday, January 4th (normal service times)
Love’s Pure Light Beams from Thy Holy Face

WELS Christian Aid and Relief

I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving (Psalm 69:30). The Lutheran church is often called the singing church. What do we sing about? We sing about a God who created us and cares for us with abundant blessings. We sing about a God who sent his Son to redeem us by his blood, save us from our sins, and secure our place in heaven. We sing about a God who comforts our hearts and strengthens our faith through Word and Sacrament. With great joy and gratitude, we sing our songs of thanksgiving to glorify our gracious, generous, and compassionate God!

Not only do we sing; we act. We imitate our God in the compassion we show to others. Your special gifts enable us to serve hurting people all around the world and lead to many opportunities to share the good news of God's love in Christ, so that they too can sing a song of thanksgiving to the one true God. We thank you for supporting this vital ministry of compassion with your prayers and gifts of love! Here's how we used those gifts this past year:

Grant Summary

- **Disaster Relief:** \$441,657 was utilized for disaster relief. We helped rebuild churches in Malawi destroyed by a cyclone, provided flood relief in India, Kenya, Thailand, and Vietnam, assisted with wildfire relief in Texas, Arizona, and Los Angeles, and supported recovery efforts following hurricanes Helene and Milton.
- **Humanitarian Aid:** \$482,946 went toward humanitarian aid projects in partnership with WELS Home and World Missions. These dollars help provide food for the hungry, medical care for the sick and dying, clean drinking water, school supplies for underprivileged children, vocational training, and many other needs.
- **Personal Relief Grants:** \$388,386 funded grants to assist brothers and sisters experiencing a medical or financial crisis.
- **Total:** God enabled us to use more than \$1.3 million of your gifts to show compassion to people in need! To him alone be all the glory!

To learn more, make a donation, or volunteer, visit wels.net/relief and like us on Facebook at fb.com/WELSChristianAidandRelief. If a need arises for humanitarian aid or disaster relief in your area, please contact Director Rev. Daniel Sims.

WELS Christian Aid and Relief
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WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

FOR OUR GUESTS

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help!

Please take note of a few helpful things:

- ✦ Restrooms with diaper-changing tables are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance.
- ✦ Our sanctuary is equipped with a "loop" system for hearing assistance. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position or ask an usher for a headset.
- ✦ You will find a connection card in your pew. Please share names, contact information, and prayer requests.
- ✦ Salem members give an offering to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to make a donation you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.
- ✦ Our services are streamed live on our YouTube channel. If you would prefer not to be on camera, please sit in the seats located beneath the balcony.

FOR THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We love to see families worship together and we welcome children to sing, pray, and grow with us in our services.

We provide a few special worship aids and helps for families:

- ✦ Children's bulletins & activity bags are available in the entry, just to the left of the office hallway. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- ✦ If your child needs a quiet space, you can use the fireside room down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is streamed live into the room.
- ✦ Children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for the weekly children's message. Parents are welcome too!

**Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God
by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may
grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.**

