

NORTH BAY LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Give
 THANKS
WITH A GRATEFUL
HEART  *1 Thessalonians. 5:18*

Thanksgiving Eve
Service

November 27, 2024

A Service of Thanksgiving
Wednesday, November 27, 2024 - 6 pm
NORTH BAY LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

(Please Rise)

THANKSGIVING DIALOG

O God, all good gifts are sent from heaven above,
So we lift our hearts to you in praise and thanksgiving.
We thank you for family and friends who love us and care for us,
And we pray that you would befriend those who are alone.
It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
To sing praises to your name, O Most High.
As we count our blessings, and acknowledge your goodness,
Our hearts go out to those who are in need.
We thank you for jobs that provide for our families,
And we pray that you care for those who have no work.
Loving God, in this season, give to us the gift of a thankful heart,
That we may acknowledge you as the giver of all good gifts.
In the name of Jesus we ask this,
Amen!

OPENING HYMN *“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”*

Come, ye 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.

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 garner to abide.
Come with all Your angels, come, raise the glorious Harvest-home.

OPENING PRAYER

P) Praise and thanks to you, O faithful Creator. According to your word and your promise, you take delight in blessing us. With your good gifts of sun and rain, the earth brings forth its bounty. With your good gifts of health and strength, we too perform the work which you have given us to do. Make us truly grateful for each evidence of your love, and give us grace to show our gratitude; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C) *Amen.* (Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Joel 2:21-27

²¹ “Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has done great things!
²² Fear not, you beasts of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit; the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

²³ “Be glad, O children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God, for he has given the early rain for your vindication; he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the latter rain, as before.

²⁴ “The threshing floors shall be full of grain; the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. ²⁵ I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent among you.

²⁶ “You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. ²⁷ You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God and there is none else. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

PSALM

Psalm 126

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.

**Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

Then they said among the nations,
“The LORD has done great things for them.”

**The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.**

Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses of the Negev.

**Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.**

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

(Please Rise)

GOSPEL

Matthew 6:25-33

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

(Please be seated)

SERMON

Pastor Gary Heltsley

HYMN: *“Praise and Thanksgiving”*

Praise and thanksgiving, Father we offer
For all things living, created good,
Harvest of sown fields, Fruits of the orchard,
Hay from the mown fields, Blossom and wood.

Bless Lord the labor, We bring to serve you,
That with our neighbor, We may be fed.
Sowing or tilling, We would work with you,
Harvesting, milling, For daily bread.

Father providing, Food for your children.
By your wise guiding, Teach us to share,
One with another, So that, rejoicing,
With us, all others, May know your care.

Then with your blessing, Reach every people,
Freely confessing, Your gracious hand.
Where all obey you, No one will hunger,
In your love’s sway you, Nourish the land.

APOSTLES' CREED (*Please Rise*)

**C) I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

THE PRAYERS

P) In communion with all the saints, let us pray to God who is our eternal home.
(*A brief silence.*)

We give you thanks, O God, for your church and for the wondrous ways in which you have dealt with your people. Continue to inspire the church to be a blessing in our communities and in the society at large.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

We give you thanks, O God, for the diversity of the world's people, for all nations and their leaders. Grant to all your wisdom and grace, that a quiet and peaceable life would be possible for all people.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

We give you thanks, O God, for your abundant blessings to us and for the bounty of the world's resources. Help us to share of our plenty with those in need.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

We give you thanks, O God, for this congregation and for the praises you have put in our mouths and in our hearts. Help us work to ensure that people in our community have sufficient food, clothing, and shelter.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

We give you thanks, O God, for bringing the promise of comfort to those who grieve. We remember with praise and thanksgiving all who have died and who now rest at peace in your eternal harvest home.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

P) Your reign, O God, endures forever, and in Christ we are free to be your saints and servants. Hear our prayers for the sake of him who died and rose again, and lives with you in the company of all your saints in light.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY *(Please rise)*

C) **“Praise God, From whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen”**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P) God of our salvation -

C) **All that we have comes from your hand. We bring what you have already given us—bread and wine for your table, and gifts for the work of your kingdom. Most of all we give you thanks for your greatest gift to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen***

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

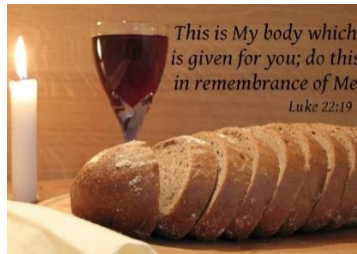
LORD'S PRAYER (*Spoken*)

**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,
forever and ever. *Amen***

(Please be seated – follow the directions of the ushers)



HOLY COMMUNION: *All are welcome at the Lord's table (the red liquid is wine; the white liquid is grape juice).*



COMMUNION SONGS

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

For the bread which you have broken for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.

By this promise that you love us - by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heaven above us - hallow all our lives, O Lord.

With the saints who now adore you - seated at the heavenly board,
may the church still waiting for you - keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.

In your service, Lord, defend us - in our hearts keep watch and ward;
in the world to which you send us - let your kingdom come, O Lord.

We Praise you O God

We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring;
We lay it before You; we kneel and adore You;
We bless Your holy name; glad praises we sing.

We worship You, God of our fathers and mothers;
Through life's storm and tempest our guide You have been;
When perils o'ertake us, You never forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord, our battles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer,
Our songs of thanksgiving to You we now raise;
Your strong arm will guide us, our God is beside us,
To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son (2x)

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" (2x)

Give thanks



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *(Please rise)*

P) God of the living, you gather and shepherd your flock, satisfying us with bread from heaven. Sustain us through this meal until the day of resurrection, when we shall see you face to face; in the name of our living redeemer, Jesus Christ.

C) *Amen.*

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: “*For the Fruit of All Creation*”

For the fruit of all creation, Thanks be to God.
For these gifts to every nation, Thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, Silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth’s safe keeping, Thanks be to God.

In the just reward for labor, God’s will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God’s will is done.
In our world-wide task of caring, For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvest we are sharing, God’s will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, Thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, Thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

*Welcome to all who have come to worship this evening.
Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for dessert following our service!*

Serving tonight:

Piano - Robert Aaron *Presiding* - Pr. Gary Heltsley
Greeters - Marilyn Holt & Shelley Marion
Ushers - Kristian & Janice Schonberg
Reader - John Lorenz
Communion Assistants - Ronda Jensen & Rosemary Wheaton
Sacristans – Linda Gaskins & Char Pedersen
Close up - Ronda Jensen

Give thanks
TO THE LORD FOR HE IS GOOD;
HIS LOVE *endures forever*
PSALM 136:1

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