

Thanksgiving Worship

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let the Nations be glad and sing for joy,
for God is the judge, who judges the peoples
with equity and guide all the nations upon the earth.

**People: Let all the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.**

Leader: The earth has brought forth its increase;
our God has blessed us with his bounty

**People: Let all the creation praise you, O God;
let all the creation praise you.**

HYMN

"We Gather Together"

We're using the tune from hymn # 276 in the Chalice Hymnal, but more traditional words.

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 THANKSGIVING

Leader: We praise and thank our God

People: For the blessings of life and faith and hope.

Leader: We praise and thank our God

People: For the Creator who made us, the Christ who saved us, and the Counselor who guides us.

Leader: We praise and thank our God

People: For family and friends, for neighbors and coworkers.

Leader: We praise and thank our God

People: For God has blessed us beyond all expectations.

Leader: We praise and thank our God

**People: For all blessings which compel us to reach out to those with less, to be of service to any in
need, to keep company with the unwelcome, to seek peace and make friends of our enemies.**

Leader: Let us pray,

**People: Heavenly Father, there are so many things for which we might give thanks today,
but first we ask that we may think on the meaning of the feast rather than on the feast itself.**

**We thank you that this day has been set aside for this purpose,
that it means the worshipping together of grateful people.**

**We do not know why we are blessed so richly while others struggle and starve,
but help us always to remember these others and feel a responsibility toward them in their need.**

May we regard our resources as a trust, not to be hoarded,

**but to be put to use; and may we be ever grateful,
not only for our food and well-being, but for the great blessing of love and life's rich experiences.
AMEN.**

1 TIMOTHY 2:1-7

HYMN

**“For the Beauty of the Earth”
#56 in the Chalice Hymnal**

For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

MATTHEW 6: 25-33

**MESSAGE FROM REV. JANA QUISENBERRY
“Reflections on Gratitude in the Dark”**

HYMN

“Now Thank We All Our God” #715 in the Chalice Hymnal

Now thank we all our God,
With heart and hands and
voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom the 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,
And keep us full of grace,
And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
Our father and our mother,
To Christ and to the one
Who binds us to each other,
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heaven adore,
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

BLESSING

Have a joyous and blessed Thanksgiving.