Grateful for God's Gifts



St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas

November 26, 2026



THANKSGIVING DAY WORSHIP
November 26, 2026 9:00 a.m.
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
SERBIN, TEXAS

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Colossians 3:16.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN: ♫"COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME" ***LSB 892***

1 Come, ye thankful people, come;
Raise the song of harvest home.
All be 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.

2 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.

3 For the Lord, our God, shall come
And shall take His harvest home,
From His field shall in that day
All offenses purge away,
Give His angels charge at last
In the fire the tares to cast,
But the fruitful ears to store
In His garner evermore.

4 Even so, Lord, quickly come
To Thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in,
Free from sorrow, free from sin,
There, forever purified,
In Thy garner to abide:
Come with all Thine angels, come,
Raise the glorious harvest home.

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Stand

A LITANY OF GRATITUDE ***PSALM 95:2, 4-7***

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.
P Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving;
C let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
P In his hand are the depths of the earth;
C the heights of the mountains are his also.
P The sea is his, for he made it,
C and his hands formed the dry land.
P Oh, come, let us worship and bow down;
C let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.
P For he is our God,
C and we are the people of his pasture, the sheep of his hand.

Sit

HYMN: ♫"WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD" ***LSB 785***

1 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.

2 We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You;
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.
When perils o'ertake us, You will not forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

3 With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

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Stand

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ***(BASED ON EPHESIANS 5:1-2, 7-20)***

P Our Lord wants us to walk in love as his dearly treasured children; to follow the example of Christ's selfless sacrificial offering.

C **But all too often we have chosen the ways of selfishness and ingratitude; we have chosen the unfruitful works of darkness instead of the fruit of light. Enable us by your Spirit, O Lord, to acknowledge our waywardness, to look carefully at our actions and discern what is good, right, true and pleasing to you. Raise us up renewed to walk as children of light who make best use of the gifts you have given.**

P Give thanks, for Christ forgives you and frees you! He banishes your darkness and shines the light of his grace upon you. Rise up renewed by his Spirit to encourage one another in word and deed.

C **Let us give constant thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and let us serve each other out of reverence for Christ. Amen.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Give thanks for this good news: your sins are forgiven and you are granted a fresh start. The patterns of your old sinful selves have been replaced by the wonderful ways of Christ, who died yet was raised so that we might live in love for him in joyful response to all he has done.

C **We thank you for your forgiveness, O Christ. We sing our praises to you for restoring us. Amen.**

Sit

GERMAN HYMN: ♫"NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT" ***LSB 895***

1. Nun danket alle Gott
Mit Herzen, Mund und Händen,
Der große Dinge tut
An uns und allen Enden,
Der uns von Mutterleib
Und Kindesbeinen an
Unzählig viel zu gut
Bis hier her hat getan.

2. Der ewig reiche Gott
Woll uns bei unsrem Leben
Ein immer fröhlich Herz
Und edlen Frieden geben,
Und uns in seiner Gnad,
Erhalten fort und fort
Und uns aus aller Not
Erlösen hier und dort.

Δ 3. Lob, Ehr und Preis sei Gott,
Dem Vater und dem Sohne
Und dem, der beiden gleich
Im höchsten Himmelsthrone,
Dem einig höchsten Gott,
Als er anfänglich war
Und ist und bleiben wird
Jetzund und immerdar.

Stand

COLLECT FOR THANKSGIVING

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 Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

RESPONSIVE PSALM ***PSALM 98:1-3***

P O sing to the Lord a new song,
C for he has done marvelous things!
P The Lord has made known his salvation;
C he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.
P He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness;
C all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING ***DEUTERONOMY 8:1-10***

"The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers. And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the Lord your God disciplines you. So you shall keep the commandments of the Lord your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the Lord your God for the good land he has given you.

ADULT CHOIR ANTHEM: ♫"SING FOR JOY"

EPISTLE READING ***COLOSSIANS 3:12-17***

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

ADULT CHOIR ANTHEM: ♫"COME, GIVE THANKS"

Stand

GOSPEL READING ***LUKE 17:11-19***

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

"So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Sit

SERMON HYMN: ♫"JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE" ***LSB 803***

1 Joyful, joyful we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs 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.

2 All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

△3 **Thou art giving and forgiving,**
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Fountainhead of love divine:
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit!
Joyful, we by grace are Thine!

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SERMON: "REMEMBER THE WHOLE WAY" ***DEUTERONOMY 8:1-10***

By Pastor John Schmidt

Stand

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C **Amen.**

OFFERTORY

C♫ **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

Sit

OFFERING

As offerings are brought forward the congregation stands and sings.

OFFERING HYMN: ♫"WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN" ***LSB 781 V. 1-2***

1 We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

2 May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!

PRAYERS

P O God of the earth and of the universe, you created each of us in your image. Mold us and shape us into the people you would have us be for you. Move our hands and feet to serve you wholeheartedly. Open our eyes and ears to see and hear what you are doing in our lives, and guide our lips to proclaim your goodness to all the world. In thankfulness and praise,

C **we lift our prayers to you, O Lord.**

P O God our Father, you sent your Son into the world to become one of us and save us from sin, death and the devil. Let your forgiveness flow through us and flow out from us to others. Strengthen us to resist all temptation and fill us with the hope we have in you for the life yet to come. In everything may our lives be thank offerings to you. In thankfulness and praise,

C **we lift our prayers to you, O Lord.**

P Great God, who sent the Holy Spirit to spread the Good News of Jesus to every nation and land, energize us to witness for you. Inspire us to share the salvation story of your Son to people far and near. Stir up inside of us the desire to grow in our faith and remain in our faith in you that we might draw closer to you. In thankfulness and praise,

C **we lift our prayers to you, O Lord.**

P Healing Lord, bless those who are suffering in body, soul and mind that they may find relief from their pain. Comfort those who are grieving the loss of loved ones and be present with all those who are hospitalized or home-bound. Grant peace to them all and bring recovery, according to your will. In thankfulness and praise,

C **we lift our prayers to you, O Lord.**

P Generous God, as we celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday, help us to remember all the gifts you provide for us every day of the year. Fill us with gratitude in our hearts for the love of family and friends, the protection of clothing and shelter, and the abundance of food and drink that we enjoy. Grant safe travels to those who are journeying to be with loved ones and bless all gatherings with joy in you and in one another. In thankfulness and praise,

C **we lift our prayers to you, O Lord.**

P In every prayer we pray to you, we thank you for listening, we love you for caring and we trust you to answer us. Let us keep holding fast to you. In thankfulness and praise,

C **we lift our prayers to you, O Lord. Amen.**

Sit

HYMN: ♫"SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU" ***LSB 537***

Schönster Herr Jesu,
Herrscher aller Herren,
Gottes und Mariä Sohn!
Dich will ich lieben,
Dich will ich ehren,
Meiner Seelen Freud' und Kron'.

Schön sind die Wälder,
Schöner die Felder
In der schönen, Frühlingszeit,
Jesus ist schöner,
Jesus is reiner,
Der unser traurigs Herz erfreut.

Schön leucht't der Monden,
Schöner die Sonne
Als die Sternlein allzumal.
Jesus leucht't schöner,
Jesus leucht't reiner,
Als all die Engel im himmelssaal.

Alle die Schönheit
Himmels und der Erde
Ist nur gegen ihn als Schein.
Keiner soll nimmer
Lieber uns werden
Als er, der schönste Jesus mein!

Stand

LORD'S PRAYER

GERMAN BENEDICTION

P Der Herr segne dich und behüte dich!
Der Herr erleuchte sein Angescht über dich
Und sei dir gnüdig!
Der Herr erhebe sein Angesicht auf dich und
Gebe dir Frieden!

C **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

BENEDICTION (FROM PHILIPPIANS 4:8)

P Finally, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Now may the Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you his peace.

C **All thanks and praise to God! Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: ♫"SING TO THE LORD OF HARVEST" ***LSB 893***

1 Sing to the Lord of harvest,
Sing songs of love and praise;
With joyful hearts and voices
Your alleluias raise.
By Him the rolling seasons
In fruitful order move;
Sing to the Lord of harvest
A joyous song of love.

2 God makes the clouds rain goodness,
The deserts bloom and spring,
The hills leap up in gladness,
The valleys laugh and sing.
God fills them with His fullness,
All things with large increase;
He crowns the year with blessing,
With plenty and with peace.

3 Bring to this sacred altar
The gifts His goodness gave,
The golden sheaves of harvest,
The souls Christ died to save.
Your hearts lay down before Him
When at His feet you fall,
And with your lives adore Him
Who gave His life for all.

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SILENT PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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2026 Advent/Christmas Schedule

Service	Day	Date	Time	Detail	Offering
Advent Services	Wednesday	December 2, 9, 16	7:00 p.m.	Communion December 3	General
Song Service	Sunday	December 20	8:30 a.m.		General
Candlelight Carol Service	Wednesday	December 23	7:00 p.m.		General
Christmas Eve	Thursday	December 24	6:00 p.m.		½ Lutheran Braille Workers & ½ Bus Fund
Christmas Day	Friday	December 25	9:00 a.m.	English/German	½ LSS & ½ LBT
New Year's Eve	Thursday	December 31	7:00 p.m.		General
New Year's Day	Friday	January 1	9:00 a.m.	Communion	General

