



Thanksgiving Celebration
A Worship Service of Thanksgiving
27 November 2019

Prelude

Trinitarian Confession, Salutation and Votum

Minister: We are gathered in the Name of the Father, and of the
Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19*

People: **Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth!** *Psalm 124:8*

Minister: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father
and Christ Jesus our Lord! *1 Timothy 1:2b*

People: **Amen!**

Call to Worship

Psalm 136:1–3, 26

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of gods,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of heaven,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

▲ **Hymn 715** Come, Ye Thankful People, Come *Trinity Hymnal*

▲ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

Call to Confession of Sin

1 John 1:8–9

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Corporate Confession of Sin

Loving God, we gather today, rich in blessing, somehow believing that we merit the wealth and comforts we enjoy.

Forgive us, our God, for comfortably closing our eyes to the faces of the poor that stare blankly in our direction.

Lord, have mercy on us.

With bellies full of grain and meat, we offer token gestures to the hungry in our world and we feel we have done enough.

Forgive us, God, for keeping a distance between “us” and “them,” for closing our ears to the cries of the hungry.

Christ, have mercy on us.

With hands tightly clasping our treasures on earth, we cannot reach out to our oppressed brothers and sisters around this world.

Forgive us for clinging to our own possessions rather than to you.

Unite us with hearts of thanksgiving, that we may work to ensure freedom and justice for all.

Lord, have mercy on us. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Psalm 103:8–12

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

▲ Psalm 103:1–13

Trinity Psalter

(Tune: BEECHER)

Thanksgiving Testimonials

We invite those who wish to give public testimonies of thanksgiving to God to do so at this time.

Thanksgiving Prayer

Give thanks to the Lord who is good.

God's love is everlasting.

Come, let us praise God joyfully.

Let us come to God with thanksgiving.

For the good world:

for things great and small, beautiful and awesome,
for seen and unseen splendors,

thank you, God.

For human life:

for talking and moving and thinking together,
for common hopes and hardships shared from birth until our dying,

thank you, God.

For work to do and strength to work,

for the partnership of labor,
for exchanges of good humor and encouragement,

thank you, God.

For marriage:

for the mystery and joy of flesh made one,
for mutual forgiveness and burdens shared,
for secrets kept in love,

thank you, God.

For family:

for living together and eating together,
for family amusements and family pleasures,

thank you, God.

For children:

for their energy and curiosity,
for their brave play and startling frankness,
for their sudden sympathies,

thank you, God.

For the young:

for their high hopes and solemn vows,
for their willingness to challenge worn-out views,
for their search for freedom,

thank you, God.

For growing up and growing old,
for wisdom deepened by experience,
for rest in leisure,
for time made precious by its passing,
thank you, God.

For your help in times of doubt and sorrow,
for healing our diseases,
for preserving us in temptation and danger,
thank you, God.

For the Church into which we have been called,
for the good news we receive by Word and sacrament,
for our life together in the Lord,
we praise you, God.

For your Holy Spirit,
who guides our steps and brings us gifts of faith and love,
who prays in us and prompts our grateful worship,
we praise you, God.

Above all, O God, for your Son Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and lives again for our salvation:
for our hope in him,
for the joy of serving him,
**we thank and praise you, eternal God,
for all your goodness to us.**

Give thanks to the Lord, who is good.
God's love is everlasting. Amen.

▲ **Hymn 363** We Gather Together *Trinity Hymnal*

Preaching of the Word Rev. Miller Ansell
Sermon Text: Psalm 65:9 The Blessedness of God's Rule

▲ **Hymn 125** Let All Things Now Living *Trinity Hymnal*

▲ **The Benediction**

Postlude Hymn 98 Now Thank We All Our God *Trinity Hymnal*

▲ Congregation stands as able