

**Thanksgiving Eve
Ecumenical Service**

November 22, 2023



**Hiss United Methodist Church
St. John's Lutheran Church
St. Ursula Roman Catholic Church**

WELCOME

*(Please take a moment to silence all electronics. Thank you!)
(Hymns are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red book in the pew rack.)*

PRELUDE *O God Beyond All Praising* *arr. Anthony Giamanco*
(© 2016 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

(Please stand as you are able.)

GATHERING

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
In the wilderness Hagar and Ishmael discovered your well.
Through the sea you led your people from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as your children,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

Pastor Amy Berger- St. John's Lutheran Church
Pastor Mathew Berger- St. John's Lutheran Church
Pastor Mark Mooney- Hiss United Methodist Church
Father Jason Worley- St. Ursula Catholic Church

Paul Binko- Director of Music, St. Ursula Catholic Church
Martha Requard- Director of Music, St. John's Lutheran Church



Notice of live streaming:

Today's worship service is being live streamed to YouTube with video coverage of leaders and worshippers.

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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Gracious God, all we have is yours. Stir your Spirit in us that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may be sent out as faithful stewards, caring for people and creation alike. All praise and glory to you, O God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May the God of all creation,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved,
who strengthens us for service,
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!
The blessing of God,

Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit,
be with you today and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN *O God beyond All Praising* *ELW 880 (verses 1 & 3)*

(Text: Michael Perry 1942-1996; Music: Gustav Holst, 1874-1934; Text © 1982, 1987 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* *Douglas E. Wagner*

(© 2017 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Let the church say Amen.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* *ELW 693 (vv. 1-2)*

(Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.; Music: George J. Elvey, 1816-1893)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Giving and forgiving God, you created the good earth and blessed it. Give us glad and generous hearts, that we may rejoice and give thanks for the abundance of your creation, the depths of your mercy, and your care for all, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

(The assembly is seated.)

WORD

PSALM *(Read responsively; congregation reads bold verses.)* **Psalm 65**

You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

**To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**

Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.

Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!

They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.

Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

**You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.**

You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

**Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**

You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God
is full of water. You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

**You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.
**May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.

EPISTLE **2 Corinthians 9:6-15**

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, 'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever.'

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

HOMILY *Father Jason Worley*

(Please stand as you are able.)

HYMN OF THE DAY *Praise and Thanksgiving* *ELW 689*

(Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, alt.; Music: Gaelic tune, arr. hymnal version; Text © Oxford University Press; Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress)

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

(We offer each other a sign of Christ's peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.)

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Every Good and Perfect Gift* *Choirs*
(Words: Joseph M. Martin; Music: Heather Sorenson; Words and music © 2011 Hal Leonard Corporation)

*This evening's offering goes toward the feeding ministries
of our congregations:
St. Vincent de Paul, Victor's Vittles, and Food For Thought.
Thank you for your generous support!*



(Please stand as you are able.)

OFFERING HYMN *God of the Fertile Fields* *ACS 1063 (vv. 1-2)*

1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
trust from you all that you give; help us in
boun - teous hand, come gifts your love has planned,
love to share, teach us like you to care
that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.

(Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974; Music: Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796; Text © 1955 ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company)