

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church  
1615 N. Wauwatosa Avenue  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213  
(414) 774-0441

Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018  
Thanksgiving Eve Service  
**7:00 pm**

Prelude

Welcome to Worship

Call to Worship

*Come, Ye Thankful People*  
Grace Note Men's Ensemble

## Gathering

*(Please stand as you are able)*

Opening Litany

- P** O come, you thankful people, come and rejoice in the Lord.
- C** **O come, let us give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good.**
- P** From the hand of God, we have received an abundant harvest.
- C** **Let us return thanks to the Lord for the bounty we enjoy.**
- P** God loves you and has chosen you as God's own special people.
- C** **With thankful hearts we sing our praise to God!**
- P** 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.
- C** **Praise and thanksgiving be to our God forever and ever!**

Apostolic Greeting

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

- P** Let us pray. Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

**#693 Come, You Thankful People, Come**

*The Congregation is asked to join in singing Stanzas 1 and 4 on cue. The Senior Choir will sing stanzas 2 and 3.*

*Word*

*(Please be seated)*

Reading

Joel 2:21-27

*The prophet Joel understood that a locust plague that ravaged the land of Judah was God's judgment on the people, whom he then called to repentance. Today's reading points beyond the judgment to a time when the Lord will bless the land and cause it to produce food in abundance.*

- P** Word of God, word of life.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm Response [Psalms 33, 45, 65-67, 92, 111]

- L** It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to God's name.
- C** **Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom God has chosen as a heritage.**
- L** God visits the earth and waters it; and enriches it greatly and provides the people with grain.
- C** **The LORD crowns the year with bounty, the pastures of the wilderness overflow.**
- L** Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of God's praise be heard, who has kept us among the living.
- C** **We will give thanks to the LORD with our whole heart! God provides food for those who fear Him; He is ever mindful of His covenant.**
- L** The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.
- C** **May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the Earth revere the LORD.**

Anthem

*Comme au Premier Jour* by Andre Gagnon,  
arr. by Manami Takada – Bells Angels

Responsive Reading from the Small Catechism

- Ⓐ The Fourth Petition: Give us today our daily bread. What is this? Or What does this mean?
- ⓐ **In fact, God gives daily bread without our prayer, even to all evil people, but we ask in this prayer that God cause us to recognize what our daily bread is and to receive it with thanksgiving.**
- Ⓐ What then does “daily bread” mean?
- ⓐ **Everything included in the necessities and nourishment of our bodies, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, farm, fields, livestock, money, property, an upright spouse, upright children, upright members of the household, upright and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, decency, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.**
- Ⓐ The Sixth Petition: Save us from the time of trial. What is this? Or What does this mean?
- ⓐ **It is true that God temps no one, but we ask in this prayer that God preserve and keep us, so that the devil, the world, and our flesh may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great and shameful sins, and that, although we may be attacked by them, we may finally prevail and gain the victory.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 6:25-33

- Ⓐ The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.
- ⓐ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus taught his disciples about the providence of God so that they would regard life with thanksgiving and trust rather than anxiety.*

- Ⓐ The Gospel of the Lord for you this day.
- ⓐ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

Sermon

Pastor Matthew Schlake-Kruse

*(Please stand as you are able)*

Hymn of the Day

**#694 Sing to the Lord of Harvest**

*(Prayer Cards will be collected during the Hymn)*

The Apostles' Creed

Inside back cover of the Hymnal

Prayers of Intercession

## *Thanksgiving*

*(Please be seated)*

Peace & Gathering of Food and Gifts

- P** All things come from you, O God,
- C** **and with gratitude we return to you what is yours.**
- P** As God has given us peace through Christ, so let us pass the peace of Christ to each other.
- C** **Thanks be to God!**

*(While you joyously share the peace of Christ, please bring your food and thanksgiving offering forward to the altar at this time.)*

## Offertory Hymn

## Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One, give  
 thanks\_\_ be-cause he's giv-en\_\_ Je - sus Christ, his Son. Give thanks with a  
 grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One, give thanks\_\_ be-cause he's  
 giv-en\_\_ Je - sus Christ, his Son. And now let the weak say, "I am  
 Strong," let the poor say, "I am rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for\_\_  
 us. And now let the weak say, "I am Strong," let the poor say, "I am  
 rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for\_\_ us. Give thanks!\_\_

*Last Time*

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*(Please stand as you are able)*

Offertory Prayer

- P** Gracious God, when we look upon what we have gathered here - our time, our possessions, our love and praise - we see what you have first given us.
- C** **We see in these things your heart. Look upon these gifts, we pray and see in them our hearts as well, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

*Sending*

*(Please be seated)*

Sharing of Church Events

Benediction

- P** From the hand of God, we have received an abundant harvest.
- C** **Let us return thanks to the Lord for the bounty we enjoy.**
- P** God loves you and has chosen you as his own special people.
- C** **With thankful hearts we sing our praise to God!**
- P** And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving to God the Father through him.
- C** **Praise and thanksgiving be to our God forever and ever! Amen.**

Closing Hymn

**#840 Now Thank We All Our God**

Dismissal

- L** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God. Amen!**

Postlude

*Nun Danket Alle Gott*