

**Closing Hymn Christian Worship #610 “Now Thank We All Our God”**

**Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things have done, In whom His world rejoices,  
Who from our mother’s arms Has blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love And still is ours today.**

**Oh, may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,  
With ever-joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us  
And keep us in His grace And guide us when perplexed  
And free us from all ills In this world and the next.**

**All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given,  
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven,  
The one eternal God, Whom earth and heaven adore!  
For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.**

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**“Give us this day our daily bread.”**

*What does this mean?*

God surely gives daily bread without our asking, even to all the wicked, but we pray in this petition that he would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

*What, then, is meant by “daily bread”?*

Daily bread includes everything that we need for our bodily welfare, such as food and drink, clothing and shoes, house and home, land and cattle, money and goods, a godly spouse, godly children, godly workers, godly and faithful leaders, good government, good weather, peace and order, health, a good name, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

**Prayer before worship:** Almighty God, you are the giver of all good gifts. Forgive us for failing to recognize your gifts and your grace. Create in us new hearts, so that every day we may see your mercy, often hidden in the things we take for granted. Lead us to live in gratitude, not only today but always. Move us to express our thanks and reliance on you not only by the things we say but also by the lives we lead. Hear us for Jesus’ sake. Amen.

**EMMAUS EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Phoenix, Arizona

Give Thanks  
to the *Lord*  
for he is Good,  
*His mercy endures forever*

**THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE  
11/23/2017**

## **THE INVITATION TO WORSHIP**

**P:** People of God, let us worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **OPENING HYMN: CW #609**

**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.**

**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 battles we win.**

**With voices united our praises we offer;**

**To You, great Jehovah, glad anthems we raise.**

**Your strong arm will guide us; our God is beside us.**

**To You, our great Redeemer, fore'er be praise!**

## **PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

**P:** As we begin this day of thanksgiving and praise, let us take inventory of our many sins, the ones we are aware of, and the ones we are not, and let us confess them before our God and LORD, asking Him to forgive us for the sake of Jesus, His Son. LORD, "the eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing," We come before You to confess our sins, including our ingratitude and lack of appreciation for all the blessings You have given us.

**C:** We confess to You, O LORD, that we have not given You thanks for all Your generous blessings; we have not trusted in You to provide our every need; we have not looked to You alone for every good; we have not shown gratitude or appreciation, but too often we have grumbled and complained. For these sins and all our other wicked thoughts, words, and actions, we do deserve to be punished. We know we are dust; and to dust we will return. Our only appeal is to Your mercy; have mercy on us and forgive us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

**P:** Thank you for the roofs that shelter us, for clothing that protects us, and for food and drink. Thank you for our work, for projects that are done well, and for the approval of supervisors and teachers. Thank you for all who serve at night to make our days pleasant.

**C:** Thank you for associates at work, for their encouragement and praise, and for the joys of human friendships.

**P:** Thank you for our cities and our country sides, for farms and factories, for streets and highways, and for all of life that flows swiftly before us.

**C:** Thank you for children at play, their boundless energy, and their shouts of joy and laughter.

**P:** Thank you for the morning greetings we receive, and for all the smiles that come from faces loved by You.

**C:** Thank you for Christian parents, for their affection and their care.

**P:** Hear us, Lord, as we give thanks for personal blessings.

*(Silent prayer)*

**P:** Thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, for His coming to us in Word and sacraments, for His giving and forgiving, and for listening to our prayers. Receive our gifts and offerings as our sacrifice of praise.

**C:** Lead us in thankful living today and always. Amen.

## **LORD's PRAYER**

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

## **BENEDICTION**

## **SERMON HYMN - CW #615**

**We thank You for Your blessings, Almighty Lord, our King;  
We thank You for the harvests, Yes, Lord, for ev'rything:  
For flow'rs that bloom in springtime, For rip'ning fruit and grain,  
For all the precious sunshine, And for the gentle rain.**

**This day of great thanksgiving We count them one by one:  
Our free and fruitful country, The great things You have done,  
Our family, our loved ones, The guardian angels' care,  
Our very self and heartbeat -- Lord, hear our thankful prayer!**

**But best of all Your blessings, The rainbow of your love,  
Are all the many mercies Your Word brings from above.  
Our life now has full meaning -- Christ Jesus is our God!  
Thanksgiving shall be living The way the Savior trod.**

## **SERMON**

### **SERMON RESPONSE (CW #334)**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!**

## **OFFERING**

### **RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF THANKS**

**P:** Lord of heaven and earth, You made all things beautiful. You have provided green forests and refreshing streams. You have arranged the orderly procession of day and night for our work and rest.

**C:** Thank You for the mountains and the prairies, the roaring sea, and the gentle breeze.

**P:** The LORD, our gracious Father sent His only begotten Son to pay the ransom price for you, me and a world of sinners. Through Jesus' righteous life, His holy precious blood shed for sinners, His innocent suffering and death on the cross; and with His triumphant resurrection from the dead, He has purchased salvation for us, and given us the hope of everlasting life. God in His Word has declared, "the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from every sin." He also assures us: "you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God." Therefore, give thanks to God for our salvation! The Holy Spirit has worked faith in your heart through the Word. Through faith in Jesus, you are forgiven. Go in peace.

**C:** Amen.

## **LITANY OF THANKS AND PRAISE**

**P:** Gracious God and Father, we give you thanks and praise for all that you give us day by day. Without you we have nothing. But because of Your kindness and love, you open your mighty hand and pour out upon us blessings innumerable. With humble and grateful hearts, we acknowledge that you are the Giver of all the things we have.

**C:**     **Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,  
          the King of creation!  
          O my soul, praise Him,  
          for He is your health and salvation!  
          Let all who hear Now to His temple draw near,  
          Joining in glad adoration!**

**P:** For the change in seasons; for the rain and snow you send to nourish the earth; for the sunshine you give to nurture the crops and to warm our days; for the bountiful food you supply day by day; for the clothing you abundantly provide; for good health and the ability to breathe, walk, talk, hear and work we praise you:

**C: Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully,  
wondrously, made you,  
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly  
falling, has stayed you.  
What need or grief Ever has failed of relief?  
Wings of His mercy did shade you.**

**P:** For the blessed knowledge that we are made whole by the wounds of Your Son Jesus Christ; for the full and free forgiveness You grant us for His sake; for the peace He established between us and You; for His glorious victory over all our enemies; for the wondrous truth that we are Your children by the power of the Gospel, we cannot help but break forth in songs of joy.

**C: Praise to the Lord, who will prosper  
your work and defend you;  
Surely His goodness and mercy  
shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew What the Almighty can do  
As with His love He befriends you.**

**P:** Heavenly Father, truly You alone are the reason we have all things. You have given us the best of what You had to give, Your one and only Son. Above and beyond that richest of all gifts, You abundantly provide us our daily bread. As You have given us Your best, we cannot help but respond by giving back to You the very best of all that You have given us: the best of our physical bounty, the best of our hearts, our worship, our work, our time, our abilities, our lives.

**C: Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all  
that is in me adore Him!  
All that has life and breath, come now  
with praises before Him!  
Let the Amen Sound from His people again;  
Gladly forever adore Him!**

## **THE WORD**

First lesson: **Deuteronomy 8:1-10**

Psalm of the Day: **Psalm 66** (sung responsively)

Second lesson: **1 Timothy 2:1-6**

Hymn response: **CW #250**

**C: From all that dwell below the skies  
Let the Creator's praise arise. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Let the Redeemer's Name be sung  
Through ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Eternal are Your mercies, Lord;  
Eternal is Your glorious Word. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Your praise shall sound from shore to shore  
Till suns shall rise and set no more.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Gospel lesson: **Matthew 6:25-34**

## **THE CONFESSION OF FAITH (1st Article and explanation)**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven of earth.**

*What does this mean?*

**I believe that God made me and every creature and that He gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my mind and all my abilities.**

**And I believe that God still preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, cattle and all I own, and all that I need to keep my body and life, and by defending me against all danger and guarding and protecting me from all evil.**

**All this God does only because He is my good and merciful Father in heaven, and not because I have earned or deserved it. For all this I ought to thank and praise, to serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true. Amen.**