

With Our Whole Hearts We Give You Thanks

A Thankoffering Service of the Word
Saturday, 5 November 2022, 3 p.m. CDT via Zoom

GATHERING

Confession and forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of +Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

Gathering Song

Come, All You People

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the day

Let us pray.

O God, with our whole hearts, ***we give you thanks.***

For your loving kindness and tender mercies, ***we give you thanks.***

For the bounty of the harvest, ***we give you thanks.***

Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, ***we give you thanks.***

WORD

First Reading – Ezra 3:8-13

Psalm - 111

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart

Second Reading – 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24

Gospel Reading – John 6: 25-25

Sermon

Hymn of the day

Give Thanks

Creed

Beloved, let us affirm our faith by use of the Apostle's Creed.

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 Intercession

Called together as the body of Christ, we pray for the church, those in need, and for all of God's Creation.

For the church universal, and the whole body of Christ, called, gathered, and sent in your holy name. We pray, **with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

For the beauty of creation, from the largest blue whale to the smallest bacteria and all that lives or breathes between. We pray, **with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

For peace in the all the world, for leaders and activists who labor for justice, for the beloved community that pursues love at all costs. We pray, **with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

For the opportunity to follow the way of Jesus, as we compassionately hear the cries of our siblings who are poor or oppressed in any way, give us courage to share the abundance of your earth, with all. We pray, **with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

For the ELCA, its synods, and local congregations that all members may be the hands, feet, and smile of Jesus in a world that so desperately needs him. We pray, **with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

For the ministry of the Women of the ELCA, the bold women who aspire to the organization's Purpose Statement every day, and the varied ministries carried out by participants across the church. We pray, **with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

For the faithful departed who now rest from their labors in eternal communion with you, especially those women who were active in Women of the ELCA and have died in this past year. We pray, **with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also, with you.

Let us share a sign of this peace, with one another.

THANKSGIVING

Thankoffering

Gifts may be made online at welca.org/donate. Select Thankofferings in the dropdown designation. If you prefer to send a check, make the check payable to Women of the ELCA and note Thankoffering on the memo line. Mail the completed check to

**Women of the ELCA
c/o ELCA Gift Processing
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield VA 22116**

Offering reflection

It Just Takes Gratitude: A Mincha Moment

Offering prayer

O God, we give you thanks for your overwhelming generosity toward all your children. Help us to continually heed your call to go into our neighborhoods, that we might be for our communities signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

SENDING

We give thanks to God with our whole hearts. **Hallelujah!**

Great are the works of our God. **Hallelujah!**

Gracious and merciful is God. **Hallelujah!**

God sent redemption to the people; holy and awesome is God's name.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Blessing

And now, may Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen!**

Sending song

Hallelujah! We sing your praises

Dismissal

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.

Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

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Worship leaders

Presiding minister: [The Rev. Mary Button](#)
Preacher: [The Rev. Dr. Yolanda Denson-Byers](#)
Lector: [Ms. Anne Storan](#)
Musician: [Ms. Rachel Kurtz](#)

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Announcements

Thank you for having participated in this first ever online churchwide Thankoffering service. To learn more
about Thankofferings and to download the 2022 liturgy, visit welca.org/Thankofferings.

You are invited to consider becoming a Faithful Friend. Faithful Friends participate in automatic monthly giving
connected either to a bank account or credit card. To learn more, go to welca.org/FaithfulFriends.

Consider joining women across the organization in these upcoming online events:

- An introduction to **Advent 2022**, with the Rev. Dr. Becca Ehrlich based on the Advent devotions she's written for the November-December issue of *Gather* magazine. [Advance registration is required](#). November 27, 3 p.m. CST. Spanish translation provided.
- **Boldcafe online dinners**, the first Thursday of each month. [Learn more and register for the next dinner](#). December 1, 7 p.m. CST.
- The organization will host its third digital **Blue Christmas** service on the evening of the Winter Solstice. It is a service of grieving, praying, and healing. [Advance registration is required](#). December 21, 7 p.m. CST.