

# THANKSGIVING DAY YEAR B

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2021  
10:00 A.M.



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**W**elcome to Church of the Ascension. We are an inclusive community that respects the dignity of every human being. Therefore, whoever you are in terms of race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, or ability and wherever you are on your faith journey, we welcome you and hope you will give us an opportunity to be your spiritual home.

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## THE HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II THE WORD OF GOD

*Our Worship begins with the Prelude and ends with the Postlude. Please observe a time of silent prayer during the Prelude and please remain seated until after the Postlude is finished. Thank you.*

### PRELUDE

#### *Fire in the Hearth/Dawn*

©1999, Sue Richards /©2019 Karen Ashbrook

**Sophie Chang, cello; Paul Oorts, harp guitar; Karen Ashbrook, hammered dulcimer**

### PROCESSIONAL

#### *We Gather Together to Ask the Lord's Blessing*

Melody: *Wilt Treden Nu Heden*, 16th century Dutch

### THANKSGIVING CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

**God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name.

**Make known God's deeds among the peoples!**

God blesses us with gifts of love:

**with food and clothing, home and family.**

God blesses us with daily work:

**and all we need from day to day.**

God protects us in time of danger:

**and guards us from every evil.**

God calls us into relationship with God: and forms us into one holy people,

**the Church of Jesus Christ in this place.**

Therefore shall we offer thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

**O Lord our God, we will give thanks to you forever.**

## GLORIA

*To be read in unison.*

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. *AMEN.*

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

***People*** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

**Joel 2:21-27**

*A Reading from the Book of Joel.*

Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the Lord has done great things! Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield. O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

The Word of the Lord.

***People*** **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 126

- 1 The Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, \*  
“The Lord has done great things for them.”
- 4 The Lord has done great things for us, \*  
and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, \*  
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears \*  
will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

## THE SECOND LESSON

1 Timothy 2:1-7

*A Reading from the First Letter to Timothy.*

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

For there is one God;  
there is also one mediator between God and humankind,  
Christ Jesus, himself human,  
who gave himself a ransom for all

— this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), at each of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

The Word of the Lord.

**People**      **Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 6:25-33

*Gospeller*      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**People**      **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you-- you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What

will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

*Gospeller*        The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*         **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## SERMON

**The Rev. Dr. Joan E. Beilstein, Rector**

*A moment of silence for reflection will follow the sermon.*

## A LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Let us give thanks to God for all God’s gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

**We thank you, Lord.**

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For the communion of saints, in all times and places,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For the gifts of our time, talent, and treasure, which we offer freely and cheerfully in gratitude for your blessings

*The Celebrant will offer up a symbol to be placed on the altar to represent the generosity of those who thus far have contributed to our Stewardship Pilgrimage*

For your abundance of gifts.

**We thank you Lord.**

I invite you now to offer up any other prayers or thanksgivings, either aloud or in the silence of your hearts.

*Silence*

Hear us Lord.

**For your mercy is great.**

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;

**To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. AMEN.**

## THE PEACE

*Officiant* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

## WELCOME AND BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### OFFERTORY

*Let All Things Now Living* Traditional Welsh folk tune  
*Sophie Chang, cello; Paul Oorts, harp guitar; Karen Ashbrook, hammered dulcimer*

#### OFFERTORY WORDS

*Celebrant* All things come of thee, O Lord.  
*People* **And of thine own have we given thee.**

#### BLESSING OF THE AGAPE MEAL AT HOME

We thank you God for the abundance of your hand. The food that quenches our hunger, and the drink that quenches our thirst. As we gather together, from near and far, we ask that you continue to bless our daily bread and the fruit of the vine, which we share when we come together as One Body in your Name. *Amen.*

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARIST PRAYER B

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**  
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you bestow upon your faithful people all the gifts that bless our lives and promise us in Christ our Lord that we will have life and have it abundantly.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



#### SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."



After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."



Therefore, according to his command, O Father,  
*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

**By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours,  
Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.**

And now in hope and confidence, let us pray as our Savior Christ has taught us,.

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

#### **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us!  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

#### **THE INVITATION**

The Gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose for you, therefore feed on him in your hearts with thanksgiving.

## ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*PLEASE walk up the center aisle of the church single file toward the priest.*

*Only the host will be distributed which is full communion. The common cup is still not allowed at this time.*

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

*Lord Whose Love Through Humble Service* melody: Beach Spring - B. F. White (1844)

Sophie Chang, *cello*; Paul Oorts, *harp guitar*; Karen Ashbrook, *hammered dulcimer*;

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious God, we thank you that in this sacrament you assure us of your goodness and love. Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving and help us to grow in love and obedience, that we may serve you in the world and finally be brought to that table where all your saints feast with you forever.

**Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work for your praise and glory.**

*A Prayer Book for Australia;*

## THE BLESSING

## PROCESSION INTO THE WORLD

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

Melody: *Dix*; Conrad Kocher (1838)

Sophie Chang, *cello*; Paul Oorts, *harp guitar*; Karen Ashbrook, *hammered dulcimer*

## DISMISSAL

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to God for all the blessings of this life! Alleluia!

*People* **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

*Simple Gifts*

Joseph Brackett, Jr. (1797-1882)

Sophie Chang, *cello*; Paul Oorts, *harp guitar*; Karen Ashbrook, *hammered dulcimer*



## MINISTERS FOR WORSHIP

*Celebrant & Preacher:* **The Rev. Dr. Joan E. Beilstein, Rector**

*Deacon:* **The Rev. Terri M. Murphy**

*Ministers of Music:*

**Sophie Chang, cello**

**Paul Oorts, harp guitar**

**Karen Ashbrook, hammered dulcimer**

*Tech Team:* **Peter Chang, Monica Allen, and Steve Fromyer**



### THE VESTRY OF ASCENSION

- Jane Alperson ('22), Senior Warden • Steve Fromyer ('23), Junior Warden
    - Theo Emery ('24) • Anne LeVeque ('24)
  - Arabella Littlepage ('22) • Dick Marks ('22) • Chuck McCarter ('24)
    - Jonathan Mengesha ('23) • Laura Schattschneider ('22)
  - Blaise Strandquist ('23) • Sandra Sussman ('23) • Joan Thomas ('24)
    - Ex Officio: Mary Fromyer – Registrar
    - Leticia Read – Clerk of the Works
  - Leona Cosby – Treasurer • Fred Paul – Assistant Treasurer
- treasurer-ascension@comcast.net