



12145 W. EDGERTON AVE. | HALES CORNERS, WI 53130 | 414-427-9337

<http://www.messiahhalescorners.com> † Email: LBernthal@MessiahHC.org

Luke Bernthal, Pastor

Paul Tiefel, Principal

Levi Schaller, Teacher

Carrie Reim, Teacher

Phone: 402-389-2147

Phone: 715-869-3733

Phone: 715-529-4368

Phone: 715-529-4030

November 27, 2025

Thanksgiving Day



✠ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 47 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✠

Greeting and prayer: (Pastor)

Opening Hymn: 892 *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

LSB 892

Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P On this day of thanks we come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. We come to offer Him our thanks and praise for all His goodness. But we have disobeyed Him. We do not deserve to come before His holy presence. We deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful by nature. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy upon me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P God our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. Give thanks to Him for He truly has **"blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ!" (Ephesians 1:3).** In the joy and peace of forgiveness let us now praise the Lord:

P O Lord, open my lips,

C **And my mouth will declare Your praise!**

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C **Make haste, to help me, O Lord!**

806 Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

LSB 806

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, give thanks.

Text and tune: Henry Smith, 1952

Text and tune: © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130002401

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, whose mercies are new unto us every morning and who, though we have in no way deserved Your goodness, abundantly provides for all our needs of body and soul, give us, we pray, Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your merciful goodness toward us, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 100:1-3; 4-5 - *A Psalm of Thanksgiving.*

W.S. p. 35

MAKE A JOYFUL SHOUT TO THE LORD

Antiphon



Psalm Tone



Make a joyful shout to the LORD, ^ˈall you lands!*

Serve the LORD with ^ˈgladness;

Come before His presence with ^ˈsinging.*

Know that the LORD, ^ˈHe is God;

It is He who has made us, and not ^ˈwe ourselves;*

We are His people and the sheep of His ^ˈpasture.

Antiphon

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving,
And into His courts with praise.*
Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting,*
And His truth endures to all generations.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Antiphon

Confession of Faith - 1st Article of the Apostles' Creed with Luther's Explanation (Sydney Catechism, p. 97)

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

I believe that God has created me and all creatures.

**He has given me my body and life, eyes, ears, and all my bodily members,
my mind, and all my senses and still keeps them for me.**

**God also preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food
and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, animals, and all my
property and all I need to support this body and life.**

**He protects me from all danger. He guards and defends me from every evil.
God does all this because He is my good and gracious Father in heaven, not
because of anything I have done to earn or deserve it.**

For all of this it is my duty to thank, praise, serve, and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

Choir Hymn: "Give Thanks to God"

Give thanks to God, for He is good. His love endures forever.
Give praise to Him, the Lord of Lords. His love endures forever.
He spread the earth and sea and sky. He filled them all with light and life.
May God alone be lifted high! His love endures forever.

Give thanks to God, for He is good. His love endures forever.
He brought us out from sin and death, His love endures forever.
He stood and stretched His mighty hand. He bowed Himself, became a man—
A gulf that only love could span. His love endures forever.

Give thanks to God, for He is good. His love endures forever.
We join the song that never ends: His love endures forever.
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow! Praise Him, all creatures here below!
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! His love endures forever.

Sermon: "A Thanksgiving Poem of Praise"

Texts: Psalm 103; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Job 1:21; Philippians 4:4-7

Psalm 103 (selected verses – RESPONSIVE) (ESV)

- P** Bless the LORD, O my soul,
C **and all that is within me, bless his holy name!**
- P** Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,
C **who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,**
- P** who redeems your life from the pit,
C **who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**
- P** who satisfies you with good things
C **so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.**
- P** The LORD is merciful and gracious,
C **slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

P He does not deal with us according to our sins,
C **nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

P For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
C **so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;**

P as far as the east is from the west,
C **so far does he remove our transgressions from us.**

P Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion.
C **Bless the LORD, O my soul!**

We come today with thankful hearts, We come today with praise!
We come, O Lord, with grateful hearts, To You, our songs we raise!

We come before your altar, Lord, Displayed with food and flow'r,
We come to bring our off'rings, Lord, To You this worship hour.

We come to count our blessings, Lord, Remembering each one:
We start with Your forgiving grace, Sent to us in Your Son.

As far as east from west our sins Are cast away for sure,
Transgressions, guilt, iniquities, Can touch our souls no more.

You've washed our sins and all our shame, You nailed them to the cross.
For this we thank and praise Your name! Without You, we are lost.

You've healed our souls, and bodies too, May we never forget,
The greatest and the least of all Your gracious benefits.

You satisfy us with good things, Like eagles who fly higher,
Our youth renewed, our strength restored, Because of Your great power.

You've given more than we can ask, Or even we desire.
And yet, how often we forget, Or even worse, we tire...

...Of showing thanks and gratitude—Forgive us Lord, we pray!
Improve in us our attitudes, And change our hearts each day!

Instill in us new hearts of thanks, Renew our spirits, Lord.
Help us to show our gratefulness By actions and our words.

For food and drink, for house and home, For family and friends,
For life and breath, for rain and shine, Your mercy knows no ends!

In smiles, in hugs, in laughs, in cries Of joy from little ones;
In grass so green, and trees so big, In rain and in the sun,

In pets, in plants, in times of rest, In work, in play, in peace;
On holidays—or any days—Your blessings do not cease!

In turkey, stuffing, gravy, corn, In homemade pumpkin pie,
In mashed potatoes, butter rolls, We see gifts from on high.

Let's not forget each one of these—Not even to the least—
As we sit down to say our thanks At our Thanksgiving feasts.

For all God's benefits we thank And "Bless His holy name,"
And when we do, we join the choir, Of those who do the same:

Your works in heav'n and earth sing praise—Creation as a whole—
And all that is within me sings, "O Bless the LORD, my soul!"

Hymn: 814 *O Bless the Lord, My Soul*

LSB 814



1 O bless the Lord, my soul! Let all with - in me join
2 O bless the Lord, my soul, Nor let His mer - cies lie
3 'Tis He for - gives thy sins; 'Tis He re - lieves thy pain;
4 He crowns thy life with love When ran - somed from the grave;



And aid my tongue to bless His name Whose fa - vors are di - vine.
For - got - ten in un - thank - ful - ness And with - out prais - es die!
'Tis He that heals thy sick - ness - es And makes thee young a - gain.
He that re - deemed my soul from hell Hath sov - 'reign pow'r to save.

***5. He fills the poor with good; He gives the sufferers rest.
The Lord hath judgments for the proud And justice for the oppressed.***

***6. His wondrous works and ways He made by Moses known,
But sent the world His truth and grace By His beloved Son.***

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748 Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76
Text and tune: Public domain

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (EHV)

¹⁶Rejoice always. ¹⁷Pray without ceasing. ¹⁸In everything give thanks. For this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

As we all make our list today Of things we thank God for,
Let us remember one key thing, For which we thank the Lord:

It's Him! Without Him nothing's good, Nothing has any worth.
He's worth far more than anything, In heaven or on earth!

So while we thank God for all things, Down to the smallest one,
Let's not forget to thank our God For sending His only Son!

He is the reason we "Rejoice Always...in everything,"
He is the One to Whom we pray, Without ever ceasing.

So as we look at all the gifts You've given to each one,
Lord, Help us think of things above, Not just of earthly ones.

Your earthly gifts are great, O Lord, Each one a gift of love,
But may our greatest thanks be for Your treasures from above.

"For where our treasure is," You said, "Our heart will be there too."
"Where moth and rust do not destroy," In heaven and with You!

You know us, Lord, how prone we are To love the gifts You give,
Instead of giving all our heart To You, and truly live!

So lift our eyes from plates of food To where our souls are fed.
Then we will thank You, Savior God, For more than daily bread.

It is Your will we give You thanks In every time and place.
The key? "In Christ!" God's only Son, True joy is in His grace!

Hymn: 788 (tune of hymn 917) ***Forgive Us Lord for Shallow Thankfulness*** LSB 788

- 1. Forgive us, Lord, for shallow thankfulness,
For dull content with warmth and sheltered care,
For songs of praise for food and harvest press,
While of Your richer gifts we're unaware:***
- 2. Teach us to thank You, Lord, for love and grace,
For life and vision, for a purpose clear,
For Christ Your Son, and for each human face
That shows Your message ever new and near.***
- 3. Forgive us, Lord, for selfish thanks and praise,
For words that speak at variance with deeds;
Forgive our thanks for walking pleasant ways
Unmindful of a broken brother's needs:***

**4. Teach us, O Lord, true thankfulness divine,
That gives as Christ gave, never counting cost,
That knows no barrier of "yours" and "mine,"
Assured that only what's withheld is lost.**

**5. Forgive us, Lord, for feast that knows not fast,
For joy in things that meanwhile starve the soul,
For walls and wars that hide Your mercies vast
And blur our vision of the Kingdom goal:**

**6. Open our eyes to see Your love's intent,
To know with minds and hearts its depth and height;
May thankfulness be days in service spent,
Reflection of Christ's life and love and light.**

Text: William Watkins Reid, Sr., 1890–1983, alt.

Text: © 1965, renewed 1993 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130002401

Job 1:21 (NKJV)

And [Job] said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; Blessed be the name of the LORD."

But what about those days and times When things don't go our way?
When we don't feel like giving thanks, When tears won't keep at bay.

For here on earth, as we all know, There's times of trial and pain.
There's times when in our circumstance, It's hard to praise Your name.

Maybe we're sad, or maybe we Miss loved ones we've held dear.
Maybe we're sick, or hurt, or worn Beyond what we can bear.

Maybe this life's been just too much, Too much bad news to hear.
There's sickness, war, and pain, and death It seems like everywhere!

Can we still praise at times like this? Should we still thank the Lord?
When we can't feel the love of God, Can we still trust His Word?

The answer's "Yes!" and always, "Yes!" Just look at Job and Paul:
They both endured great trials, true, But God kept them through all!

Through all the trials Job went through, In sorrow and in pain,
He knew that in the end he'd see His Savior just the same!
So after loss of all he had And all he held so dear,
He knew that "My Redeemer lives," He kept that promise near.

And even in Job's earthly life, When all was said and done,
God gave so much more than He took From Job, His treasured son.

And so Job blessed and praised the Lord Through all the tears and pain,
"The LORD may give and take away, I'll praise Him just the same!"

And look at the Apostle Paul, A man blessed beyond thought:
Though given many gifts from God, With pain his life was fraught.

Shipwrecked and stoned and left for dead In hunger, cold, and pain,
Plagued with a "thorn in his own flesh," And jailed for Jesus' name.

In fact, it was from prison he Wrote these next words we'll read
Reminding us, "Rejoice always! And pray in times of need."

"Bring all Your anxious thoughts to God, And bring them thankfully!
Do all of this in Jesus Christ, He'll give your heart true peace!"

So as we hear these words again, Words heard at sermon's end,
Remember why we can "Rejoice!" For Jesus calls you, "Friend!"

Philippians 4:4-7 (EHV)

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always! I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Hymn: 894 For the Fruits of His Creation

LSB 894

**1. For the fruits of His creation, Thanks be to God.
For His gifts to ev'ry nation, Thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, Silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safekeeping, Thanks be to God.**

**2. In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.**

**3. For the harvests of the Spirit, Thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, Thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that Christ has found us, Thanks be to God.**

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000 (adapted) Text: © 1970 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130002401

Offertory

LSB 956

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Text: Psalm 51:10–12 Tune: Johann Georg Winer, 1583–1651, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

Offering *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

Offering Hymn: 785 *We Praise You, O God*

LSB 785

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Lord of heaven and earth, You made all things beautiful. You have provided so many wonders for us to enjoy in this world You have made. You have arranged the orderly procession of day and night for our work and rest.

C Thank You for blessing us with the gifts of Your creation.

P Thank You for roofs that shelter us, for clothing that protects us, and for food and drink that sustains us. 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 more pleasant.

C Thank You for the people who bless our lives. Thank You for those whom we work and serve with, for the joys of human friendships, for the love of our families, and for fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

P Thank You for our cities and our countrysides, for farms and factories, for streets and highways, and for all of life that flows so swiftly before us.

C Thank You for times of recreation, rest, and joy. Thank You for holidays with friends and family members. Thank You for our children, whose boundless energy and joy bring happiness to our lives.

P Thank You for the smiling faces of loved ones that greet us each day and care for us.

C Thank You for Christian parents and grandparents, for their affection and their care.

P For the sick, the suffering, and the dying; for those who are hurting in heart, body, mind, and relationship; for those who are hungry and tired, weary and alone, that they may know the healing presence of Jesus and return to Him, fall at His feet, and worship Him; and for those who work to bring needed relief and the Lord's healing touch to all those for whom we pray,

C Hear our prayer; we abound in thanksgiving to You, O Lord!

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

Silent prayer.

P Most of all, 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.

C **Receive our gifts and offerings as our sacrifice of praise.**
Lead us in thankful living today and always.

P Hear us, O Savior, as we pray in Your name the prayer that You taught us:

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

C **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.

Benediction *The "Apostolic Blessing" (2 Corinthians 13:14)*

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn: 895 Now Thank We All Our God (*please stand for last verse*) *LSB 895*

ANNOUNCEMENTS



A blessed and joyful day of Thanksgiving to you all in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! Let us all remember to whom we are giving thanks – God Himself. He is certainly worthy of our thanks and praise every day of our lives. May God give us all more appreciative and thankful hearts, for He truly “has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ” (Ephesians 1:3). Please join us in thanking and praising our Savior Jesus again at our worship service this Sunday.

We Welcome Our Visitors who are with us this morning.

We hope that you are uplifted by the Gospel at our worship service.

We invite you to join us every Sunday. Please sign our guestbook in the entry.

If you would like more information about our church, please contact the pastor.



This Sunday:
11/30/25

Friday – No School at MLS (Thanksgiving Break)

Church Cleaning: Team #5 (11/22-11/28); Team #6 (11/29-12/5)

Advent Begins

Choir – 8am

Worship w/ Baptism (Judah Nelson) – **9am**

Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am

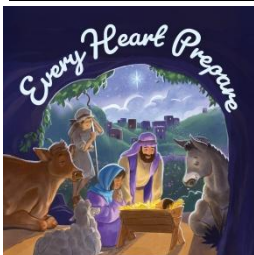
Christmas Decorating – 11am (Activity Group 3 & any and all volunteers!)



Church Christmas Decorating – Next Sunday, November 30th @ 11am –

Activity Group 3 will be decorating the church for Christmas after Bible Class and Sunday School next Sunday, Nov. 30th at 11am. The congregation is invited to help with the decorating. The more the merrier!

Wed. Advent Worship Begins 12/3 @ 6:30pm - Make plans to join us for our 3 Wed. Advent



Worship Services beginning on **Wed. Dec. 3rd @ 6:30pm**. Our series this year will be entitled: “Every Heart Prepare.”

Advent is the church’s season of preparation for Christmas, for the coming of the Lord. This Advent season, as part of our preparation, we reflect upon three common Christmas decorations and how they help us see Christ and prepare for His coming: evergreens, lights, and the nativity scene.