

# THANKSGIVING EVE

# November 23, 2022





4651 Kernan Blvd S, Jacksonville, Florida 32224 904-642-8900

Worship at 8am and 10:30am

Bible Class and Youth Sunday School at 9:15am

victorylutheran.org



Find us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube



Victory is affiliated with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

## Welcome to Victory!

- Thank you for choosing to worship the Triune God with us. May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you as we join together in worship.
- We prepare for worship by quietly meditating on the theme for the day and respectfully listening to the music chosen and prepared by our musicians.
- If you are looking for a church home, we would be thrilled to serve your spiritual needs. Our name comes from 1 Corinthians 15:57: <u>"Thanks be to God! He gives</u> <u>us the VICTORY through our Lord Jesus Christ!"</u>
- Our mission as a Christian congregation is to: "Win souls for Christ and coach Christians for life."
- Please sign the Connection Card inside your worship folder to give us a record of your visit, and so we can properly thank you for joining us!
- Restrooms are located in the hallway to the right as you enter the front doors. Changing tables are available in both the women's and men's restrooms.
  - A Quiet Room for children who need a quiet minute with mom or dad is located on the right before entering the sanctuary.

#### **TODAY'S WORSHIP:**

The importance and benefits of having a grateful heart is vouched both by religious and secular experts. But the question we want to explore on this Thanksgiving Eve is who benefits when our lives are filled with thankfulness to God for all of the blessings he's given to us. Is thankfulness good for us? Does God want us to give thanks for his benefit? Or does having a thankful heart even benefit others? We'll look to God's Word today to explain <u>The Thanksgiving</u> <u>Cycle</u>, and see how having a thankful, grateful heart isn't just a benefit for us, but also for others!



#### Upcoming Sermon Series for Advent: COME, LORD JESUS!

Nov. 27	Come, Lord Jesus, As King!
Dec. 4	Come, Lord, Jesus, As Judge!
Dec. 11	Come, Lord Jesus, As Messiah!
Dec. 18	Come, Lord Jesus, As Immanuel!



### SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE

#### THE GATHERING

- M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (*2 Corinthians 13:13*)
- C: And also with you.

#### **RESPONSIVE READING**

- M: Honor the Lord with you substance, and with the firstfruits of all your increase. (*Proverbs 3:9*)
- C: God opens his hand and satisfies the desire of every living thing. (Psalm 145:16)
- M: So your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow. (Proverbs 3:10)
- **C:** Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights. (*James 1:17*)
- M: "Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." (*Matthew* 25:34)
- C: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. (John 3:16)

#### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

M: Beloved in the Lord, indeed, God has withheld no good thing from us, not even his only Son. For this, we ought to live in perfect thanksgiving. Yet we have proven our ingratitude by disobeying God, and consequently deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am sinful by nature, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen!
- M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

#### THANKSGIVING GATHERING (Sung to the tune of "We Praise You, O God")

- C: (*sung*) We gather together to seek the Lord's favor, For daily we savor God's goodness divine. Together confessing, we seek his great blessing And find an honored place at his table to dine.
- M: Lift up your voices, O people; sing together for joy.
- C: Break forth together in rejoicing.
- M: Witness what the Lord has done, the Lord who promises and saves.
- C: (sung) We gather together with songs of thanksgiving. To God ever-living our anthems we raise. With praises unending let songs be ascending With hearts and lives united to show forth our praise.
- M: "I will surely gather all of you," says the Lord.
- C: "I will set you together like sheep in a fold, like a flock in its pasture."

- M: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed are those who take refuge in him.
- C: (*sung*) We gather together, most firmly believing. From God's hand receiving, wherever we go Our Shepherd beside us, to lead and to guide us, A table set before us, our cups overflow.

#### **THE WORD**

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Almighty God and Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of the Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

#### FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 8:10-18 Remember the giver with thanksgiving

<sup>10</sup>When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you. <sup>11</sup>Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. <sup>12</sup>Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, <sup>13</sup>and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, <sup>14</sup>then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. <sup>15</sup>He led you through the vast and dreadful wilderness, that thirsty and waterless land, with its venomous snakes and scorpions. He brought you water out of hard rock. <sup>16</sup>He gave you manna to eat in the wilderness, something your ancestors had never known, to humble and test you so that in the end it might go well with you. <sup>17</sup>You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." <sup>18</sup>But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 100: All People That on Earth Do Dwell** *Christian Worship Psalter* 100B



Text: William Kethe, alt. Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551 Text and tune: Public domain

#### SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 9:10-15 The Thanksgiving cycle

<sup>10</sup>Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. <sup>11</sup>You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

<sup>12</sup>This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. <sup>13</sup>Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. <sup>14</sup>And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. <sup>15</sup>Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### GOSPEL: Luke 19:1-10 Jesus and Zacchaeus

<sup>1</sup>Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. <sup>2</sup>A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. <sup>3</sup>He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. <sup>4</sup>So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

<sup>5</sup>When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." <sup>6</sup>So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

<sup>7</sup>All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

<sup>8</sup>But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup>For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY Now Thank We All Our God Christian Worship 597

SERMON.....Pastor Troy Schreiner Text: 2 Corinthians 9:10-15

#### **The Thanksgiving Cycle**

CONFESSION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### THANK OFFERING

Guests: This is the moment in our worship when members and friends of Victory

Lutheran respond to God's good news with gifts to support his saving work in the Jacksonville community and beyond. If you are our guest today, you are welcome to participate in this offering, but don't feel forced to! You can also give an online thank offering by using the camera on your smartphone to scan the QR code.



Please also fill out the Connection Card found inside your worship folder, and drop it in the offering plate, or in the basket on the back table.

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M: 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.
- M: Thank you for 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 more pleasant.
- C: Thank you for associates at work, for their encouragement and praise, and for the joys of human friendships.
- M: 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 children at play, their boundless energy, and their shouts of joy and laughter.
- M: 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.

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

#### Silent prayer.

M: 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.

M: Almighty God, for your goodness we give you thanks, for your mercy we praise you, and for your caring ways we magnify your holy name, asking for all that we need through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

#### 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 forever and ever. Amen.

#### BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness** *Christian Worship* 626

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Organist..... Mrs. Esther Huebner

#### **CHURCH DECORATING**

**Saturday, November 26th** — We are looking for a handful of people to help set up the two large sanctuary Christmas trees (no decorating). It would be helpful to have at least a couple of people there who have done it in the past!



**Sunday, November 27th** — Church Christmas decorating after 10:30 AM service, with a potluck lunch. Please **bring a dish to pass.** 

#### MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Once again this year, we will only be having one midweek Advent worship service on the first Wednesday in Advent, <u>November 30th.</u> We'll enjoy a potluck fellowship meal before the service, beginning at 6pm. Feel free to come whenever you can get here. The service will begin at 7pm. Please make a commitment to come to this one midweek service, to help prepare your hearts and focus in your minds and spirits on the reason for this Advent and

Christmas season! In a time of year when everything is hectic and distracting, come and focus your hearts as we get ready for Christmas by meditating on the birth of John the Baptist. The service will also be livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube, so if you can't make it in person, be sure to join us for worship online.





All women and girls ages 6+ are invited to attend! Sign up in the church narthex or online to be a table hostess, attend as a table guest, and/or bring food for the evening.



## Saturday, December 10th, 9am-1pm

	-
Name:	DATE:
What is the name of the church sea	ason or special day today?
What is the color of the church tod	lay? Circle one:
Blue White Purple Re	ed Green
This is in the: 🛛 Old Testame	ent 🗌 New Testament
What was the sermon about?	
	Λy favorite song today was:
	Ay favorite song today was:
Did we have a Sacrament today?	Лу favorite song today was:
Did we have a Sacrament today?   Image: Constraint of the second	Лу favorite song today was:





### VICTORY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL

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Victory is a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), headquartered in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

