

NOVEMBER 21, 2021 Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Christ the King Sunday



REFLECTION

"When it comes to life the critical thing is whether you take things for granted or take them with gratitude." \sim Gilbert K. Chesterton

PRELUDE

"The Rejoicing"

G. F. Handel, arr. Martha Lynn Thompson

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Most of the time we carry cash in quantity enough to give us a sense of buying power or a feeling of security;

All the time we carry from God love in quantity enough to rely on as a source of power and security;

Credit cards that allow us to act now and defer consequences to the future.

God's hope that urges us to act now in trust of the God who holds our future;

A checkbook filled with pieces of paper that gain value only as they bear our name.

Faith built upon steady contact with Jesus whose image we bear.

We gather in worship to extend our thanks to the creator of all.

**HYMN No. 643

"Now Thank We All Our God"

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, Who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices; Who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O 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 God's grace, and guide us when perplexed, And free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
To Father and to Son and Spirit now be given;
The one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
The God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

God of Grace, we bring to you our ingratitude for all that you have done for us; our impatience when prayers seem to be ignored; our selfishness when prompted to give or share; our unfaithfulness when wandering from your way. We confess that we find it easier to say thanks when prompted than it is to lead lives guided by gratitude. We ask for your forgiveness, through Jesus Christ who gave all, that we might learn to do likewise. Amen

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

This saying is true, and we should believe it: that Christ Jesus came into the world to rescue sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin and alive

to all that is good.

We believe and trust the Good News. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

**HYMN No. 336, St. 1 & 3

"We Gather Together"

KREMSER

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; He chastens and hastens his will to make known; The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing. Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant, And pray that thou still our defender will be. Let thy congregation escape tribulation; Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children in kindergarten – 7th grade may exit the sanctuary for Sunday School.

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY Deacon's Cookie Walk

FIRST LESSON Colossians 1:11-20

SPECIAL MUSIC "A Jubilant Song" Allen Pote

GOSPEL LESSON John 6:24-35

SERMON "Death of Thanksgiving" Rev. William Schram

HYMN "Praise to the Lord" A Hymn Concertato, arr. Joel Raney

Please stand and join the choir in singing the last stanza.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!

> Let the Amen sound from his people again; Gladly for aye we adore him.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Give thanks to God for all God's blessings,

God's love is everlasting.

Come, let us praise God joyfully,

Let us come to God with thanksgiving!

For the good world, for things great and small; beautiful and awesome; for seen and unseen splendors; for the beauty of this place where we live,

We thank you God.

For the gift of life; for talking and moving and thinking together; for common hope and hardships shared from birth until our dying,

We thank you God.

For this nation, for its diversity of people, for its freedom and justice, for its bounty and vision, and its mercy to others,

We thank you God.

In thanksgiving for your blessings upon our nation, we ask that you defend our liberties, make us a united people, bless our leaders with your wisdom, help us to be as we proclaim - "One Nation Under God." Holy God, hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving for the comfort of your spirit, we pray for those who have suffered greatly from natural disaster and ask your aid and blessing on those who bring help and hope.

Holy God, hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving for your vision of peace, we lift to you the victims of war throughout your world and ask your blessing on the peacemakers.

Holy God, hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving for the blessing of your healing among us, we lift those to you who are ill in body or spirit and need your healing in their life.

Holy God, hear our prayer.

We praise you God for your Son, Jesus Christ, who lived and died and lives again for our salvation.

We praise you God.

For your Holy Spirit who guides our steps and brings us gifts of faith, love, and prayer.

We praise you God.

For the church into which we have been called, for the good news we receive by Word and by Sacrament, for our life together in the Lord;

We thank you and praise you, Eternal God, for all your goodness to us.

Give thanks to the Lord who is good,

God's love is everlasting!

**HYMN No. 37

"Let All Things Now Living"

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving

To God our Creator triumphantly raise;

Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,

By guiding us on to the end of our days.

God's banners are o'er us; pure light goes before us,

A pillar of fire shining forth in the night:

Till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished, As forward we travel from light into light.

By law God enforces, the stars in their courses,
The sun in its orbit obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
With glad adoration, a song let us raise,
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

**BENEDICTION

**Those who are able may stand.

ASH GROVE

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram
Rev. Barbara Piercy, Noel Piercy
Paul Salierno, Cantor
Chancel Handbell Choir
Chancel Choir & Westminster Choir
Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers



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