

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
*Thanksgiving Eve and Day*

**Red Bud, Illinois**  
*November 24 and 25, 2021*

**A Festival Order of Worship for Thanksgiving**

The Prelude: (Wed.) "Praise and Thanksgiving"  
 (Thu.) "Now Thank We All Our God"

*Bell Choir*  
*arranged by Lani Smith*

The Ringing of the Bell calls us to reverent and thankful worship.

The Opening Hymn: 895 "Now Thank We All Our God"

*(please stand for the last stanza if you are able; "A-men.")*



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices,  
 2 Oh, may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,  
 3 All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given,



Who wondrous things has done, In whom His world rejoices;  
 With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us  
 The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven,



Who from our mothers' arms Has blest us on our way  
 And keep us in His grace And guide us when perplexed  
 The one eternal God, Whom earth and heav'n adore;



With countless gifts of love And still is ours to-day.  
 And free us from all ills In this world and the next!  
 For thus it was, is now, And shall be ever more.

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**The Invocation:**

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father who provides all we need to support our bodies and lives.

**Congregation:** Alleluia. Alleluia.

**P:** In the name of the (+) Son who has given His life on the cross for us.

**C:** Alleluia. Alleluia. Praise to our holy God.

**P:** In the name of the Holy Spirit who brings us to faith through His Word and Sacraments.

**C:** Alleluia. Alleluia. Praise to our holy God; all my inmost being, praise His holy name.

**Amen.**

**Our Confession and God's Absolution:** (from Philippians 4)

**Pastor:** Our Lord invites us to rejoice in Him always.

**C: But in sin we are anxious and concerned about the world around us.**

P: Our Lord invites us to pray to Him with thanksgiving.

**C: But in sin we too often do not speak to Him in prayer.**

P: The peace of God guards your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**C: But in sin we do not practice the true and pure things of our Lord.**

P: We can do all things through Him who gives us strength.

**C: But in sin we struggle to be content with the situation of our lives. Forgive us, O Lord. Have mercy on us, O Lord.**

P: Our God of peace has supplied your need of forgiveness according to the riches of His glory through His Son, Jesus. As a called and ordained servant of God's Word, and by His command, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

The Psalm of the Day: Psalm 65

Pastor: Praise awaits You, O God, in Zion; **C: to You our vows will be fulfilled.**

P: O You who hear prayer, **C: to You all men will come.**

P: When we were overwhelmed by sins, **C: You atoned for our transgressions.**

P: Blessed is the one You choose and bring near to live in Your courts!

**C: We are filled with the good things of Your house, of Your holy temple.**

P: You answer us with awesome deeds of righteousness, O God our Savior,

**C: the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas,**

P: who formed the mountains by Your power,

**C: having armed Yourself with strength,**

P: who stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves,

**C: and the turmoil of the nations.**

P: Those living far away fear Your wonders;

**C: where morning dawns and evening fades You call forth songs of joy.**

P: You care for the land and water it; You enrich it abundantly.

**C: The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, for so You have ordained it.**

P: You drench its furrows and level its ridges;

**C: You soften it with showers and bless its crops.**

P: You crown the year with Your bounty,

**C: and Your carts overflow with abundance.**

P: The grasslands of the desert overflow;

**C: the hills are clothed with gladness.**

P: The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are mantled with grain;

**C: they shout for joy and sing.**

**ALL: 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.**

The Salutation and Our Prayer of Thanksgiving:

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

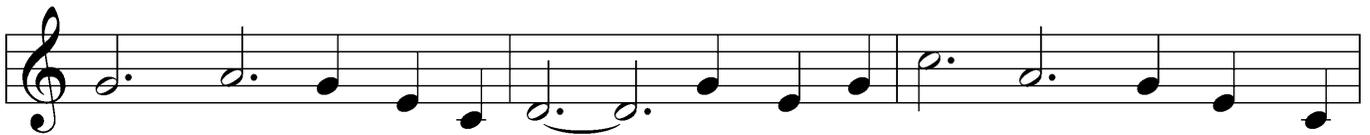
P: Let us pray: Almighty God, whose mercies are new every morning and whose goodness, though undeserved, still abundantly provides for all our wants of body and soul, grant us, we humbly pray, Your Holy Spirit, that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness toward us, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience;

**C: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.** (*please be seated*)

Hymn of Praise: 789 "Praise and Thanksgiving"



1 Praise and thanks - giv - ing, Fa - ther, we of - fer For all things  
 2 Bless, Lord, the la - bor We bring to serve You That with our  
 3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing Food for Your chil - dren, By Your wise



liv - ing, Cre - at - ed good: Har - vest of sown fields, Fruits of the  
 neigh - bor We may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, We would work  
 guid - ing Teach us to share One with an - oth - er, So that, re -



or - chard, Hay from the mown fields, Blos - som and wood.  
 with You, Har - vest - ing, mill - ing For dai - ly bread.  
 joic - ing With us, all oth - ers May know Your care.

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The Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 8:1-10

"The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that He might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not. And He humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in His ways and by fearing Him. For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and

pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land He has given you.”

P: This is the Word of our Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-4

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. P: This is the Word of our Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

(Wed.) Hymn: 806 “Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart”

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.

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(Thu.) Anthem: "God Is So Good" (arranged by John F. Wilson)

*Choir*

The Gospel Reading: Luke 17:11-19 (*please stand if you are able*)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as He entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

Our Confession of Faith: (*confessed in unison*)

*"The First Article of the Apostles' Creed and Meaning"*

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

**I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.**

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil.

All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true. *(please be seated)*

The Hymn of the Day: 785 “We Praise You, O God”



1 We praise You, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;  
2 We wor - ship You, God of our fa - thers, we bless You;  
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



In grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.  
Through tri - al and tem - pest our guide You have been.  
And glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore You, we kneel and a - dore You;  
When per - ils o'er - take us, You will not for - sake us,  
With You, Lord, be - side us, Your strong arm will guide us.



We bless Your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.  
And with Your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.  
To You, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

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Festival Message: “All the Goodness the Lord Had Shown” 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 8:66

*On the eighth day Solomon sent the people away, and they blessed the king and went to their homes joyful and glad of heart for all the goodness that the LORD had shown to David His servant and to Israel His people.*

The Thanksgiving Litany: *(please stand if you are able)*

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe.

**C: For in Your wisdom You have formed us.**

P: You feed the hungry and clothe the naked.

**C: We bless You and praise Your name forever.**

P: You set the captives free and raise up those whose courage fails.

**C: We bless You and praise Your name forever.**

P: You provide for our every need of body and spirit.

**C: Accept our grateful praises.**

P: You have called us from all nations to be Your holy people.

**C: We rejoice and bless Your name forever.**

P: You bless Your people with peace.

**C: We bless You and praise Your loving grace.**

P: We ask that Your mercy and kindness would guide our nation during times of turmoil.

**C: We call upon You to govern our land with Your great love.**

P: You have given Your Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior.

**C: We bless You and praise Your loving grace.**

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, Maker of all things.

**C: Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts.**

P: We offer ourselves to Your service in this world.

**C: We dedicate our lives to proclaiming the salvation of all that You have made.**

P: We thank and praise You for establishing and preserving our nation in freedom, for giving us a rich land in which to dwell, and for providing us with an abundance of the fruits of the earth. So that we might live in peace and be good stewards of all that You provide, grant us Your grace to recognize Your gifts and to live as good citizens. Give us grace to offer You ourselves as living sacrifices to the glory of Your holy name and the good of those around us.

**C: We pray for the sake of Him who gave Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### Service of the Sacrament

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored; Heaven and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

The Lord's Prayer: (prayed in unison) and The Words of Institution:

P: .....The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: Amen.**

Communion Distribution Hymns: (please be seated)

(Wed.) "God Is So Good"

*Bell Choir*

(Thu.) "Bless This House" (arr. by Friedrich Janssen)

*Choir*

## 892 "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; Raise the song of har-vest home.  
 2 All the world is God's own field, Fruit un - to His praise to yield;  
 3 For the Lord, our God, shall come And shall take His har-vest home,  
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come To Thy fi - nal har-vest home;



All be safe - ly gath - ered in Ere the win - ter storms be - gin;  
 Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, Un - to joy or sor - row grown.  
 From His field shall in that day All of - fens - es purge a - way,  
 Gath - er Thou Thy peo - ple in, Free from sor-row, free from sin,



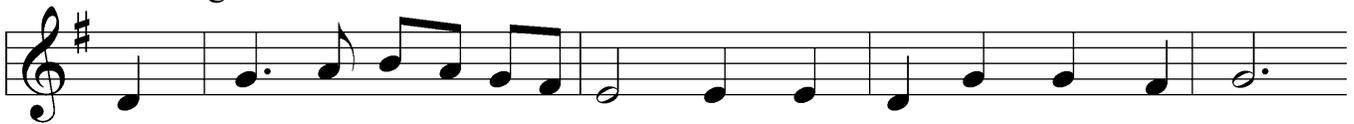
God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide For our wants to be sup - plied.  
 First the blade and then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap - pear.  
 Give His an - gels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,  
 There, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, In Thy gar - ner to a - bide:



Come to God's own tem - ple, come; Raise the song of har-vest home.  
 Lord of har-vest, grant that we Whole - some grain and pure may be.  
 But the fruit - ful ears to store In His gar - ner ev - er - more.  
 Come with all Thine an - gels, come, Raise the glo - rious har-vest home.

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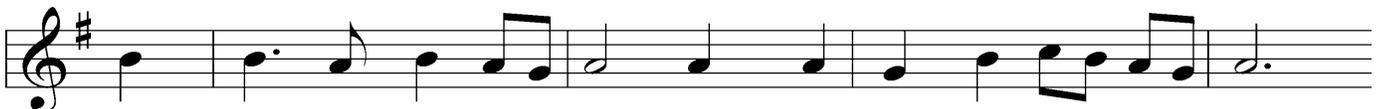
## 893 "Sing to the Lord of Harvest"



1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest, Sing songs of love and praise;  
 2 God makes the clouds rain good - ness, The des - erts bloom and spring,  
 3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar The gifts His good - ness gave,



With joy - ful hearts and voic - es Your al - le - lu - ias raise.  
 The hills leap up in glad - ness, The val - leys laugh and sing.  
 The gold - en sheaves of har - vest, The souls Christ died to save.



By Him the roll - ing sea - sons In fruit - ful or - der move;  
 God fills them with His full - ness, All things with large in - crease;  
 Your hearts lay down be - fore Him When at His feet you fall,



Sing to the Lord of har - vest A joy - ous song of love.  
He crowns the year with bless - ing, With plen - ty and with peace.  
And with your lives a - dore Him Who gave His life for all.

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### 894 "For the Fruits of His Creation"



1 For the fruits of His cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.  
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
3 For the har-vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to God.



For His gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks be to God. For the  
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done. In our  
For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks be to God. For the



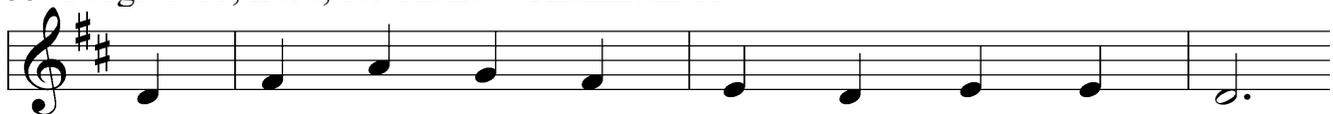
plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
world - wide task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
won - ders that as - tound us, For the truths that still con - found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, Thanks be to God.  
In the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

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### 788 "Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness"



1 For - give us, Lord, for shal - low thank - ful - ness,  
2 Teach us to thank You, Lord, for love and grace,  
3 For - give us, Lord, for self - ish thanks and praise,  
4 Teach us, O Lord, true thank - ful - ness di - vine,



For dull con - tent with warmth and shel - tered care,  
For life and vi - sion, for a pur - pose clear,  
For words that speak at var - i - ance with deeds;  
That gives as Christ gave, nev - er count - ing cost,



For songs of praise for food and har - vest press,  
 For Christ Your Son, and for each hu - man face  
 For - give our thanks for walk - ing pleas - ant ways  
 That knows no bar - ri - er of "yours" and "mine,"



While of Your rich - er gifts we're un - a - ware:  
 That shows Your mes - sage ev - er new and near.  
 Un - mind - ful of a bro - ken broth - er's needs:  
 As - sured that on - ly what's with - held 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.

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Post-Communion Collect: *(please stand if you are able)*

**P:** Let us pray: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end;

**C:** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Benedicamus and Benediction:

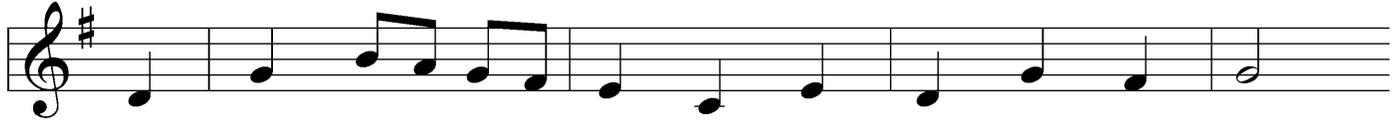
**P:** Let us bless the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and (+) give you peace. **C: Amen.**

The Closing Hymn: 643 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"



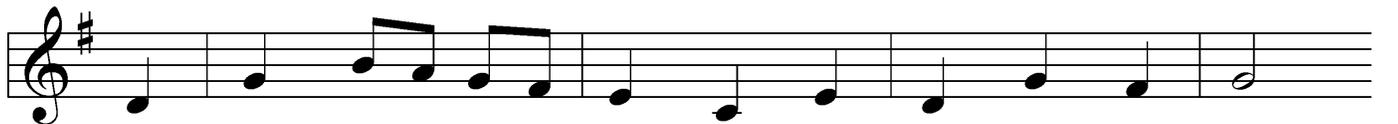
1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con - fess-ing,  
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing To God ev - er - liv - ing,



The peo - ple of God from His dwell - ing take leave.  
The tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face.



The Sup - per is end - ed. O now be ex - tend - ed  
Our faith ev - er shar - ing, In love ev - er car - ing,



The fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.  
Em - brac - ing His chil - dren of each tribe and race.



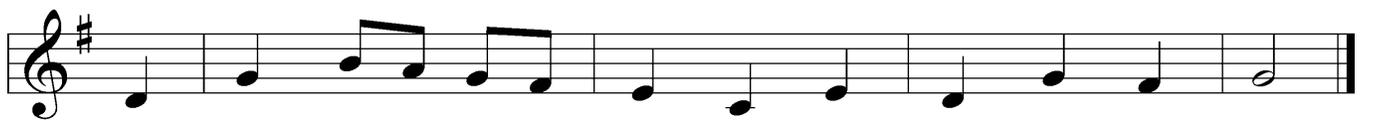
The seed of His teach - ing, Re - cep - tive souls reach - ing,  
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;



Shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.  
U - nite us as one in this life that we share.



His grace did in - vite us, His love shall u - nite us  
Then may all the liv - ing With praise and thanks - giv - ing



To work for God's king - dom and an - swer His call.  
Give hon - or to Christ and His name that we bear.

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The Postlude: (Wed.) "For the Beauty of the Earth"  
(Thu.) "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

*Bell Choir*  
*arranged by Kevin Hildebrand*

*Serving Us in Worship Today*

Preacher and Liturgist: Pastor Mark Nebel

Organist and Choir/Bell Director: Mrs. Lindsey Hudak

Acolytes: (Wed.) Kadin Liefer; (Thu.) Sydney Kassing

Instrumentals: (Thursday) David Snyder and Mark Ottoson

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT:** Deuteronomy 8:10 – “And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land He has given you.” And what a rich, peaceful, prosperous land the Lord has given us! As God blessed His people of old, so He continues to bless us. Let our lives demonstrate our thankfulness for His great generosity!

**WELCOME TO** St. John’s Lutheran Church! We are especially happy that we have guests with us today. St. John’s Lutheran is a congregation which follows the historic order of Christian worship. Even if you do not have a Lutheran background, you may recognize many of the elements of worship from your own tradition. During the offering, please sign the black friendship register at the end of the pew. We ask our guests to please fill out the red side of the card marked “Guests” in the attendance book and give it to an usher. We invite you to worship with us again very soon.

**WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION:** In this Supper of our Lord we receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the earthly forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. Since this Holy Communion is also a sign of how we commonly confess the Christian faith, we welcome to the Lord’s Table those who are confirmed members of congregations of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The individual cups of white wine in the center of the cup tray contain non-alcoholic wine for those who prefer this.

**DOOR OFFERING:** We support our local Comwell agency (Human Service Center) with a door offering following each of our Thanksgiving services.

**MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICES** are in church this Wednesday, December and also December 8 at 7 p.m. The theme is “The Couples of Advent.”

**CHRISTMAS DECORATING:** We need help decorating the church building for the Christmas season at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 5.

**THE POINSETTIA GARDEN** will be on display again this year. If you would like one of them in memory of or in honor of a loved one, please place \$7 in an envelope with their name(s) and your name included. We thank the Altar Guild for organizing this each year as it is such a beautiful addition to our chancel as well as a heartfelt way to remember our loved ones or just give thanks to the glory of God for His many blessings to us. Return it to the office or by way of the offering basket by Monday, December 20. Thank you!

Give thanks, give thanks unto the Lord Give Him our love and praise

Give thanks, give thanks unto the Lord Our voices, let us raise!

Thank God, He leads us in Christ’s Triumphal procession;

Now He uses us to spread everywhere The fragrance of knowing Him. *Joan Voges 2011*