



Thanksgiving
Eve Worship Service

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Opening Prayer

Lord God, you have brought us safely to this holy hour of Thanksgiving Eve. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise. Come and bless us as we worship you with thanksgiving: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

P: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

C: The light no darkness can overcome.

P: Stay with us Lord, for it is evening.

C: And the day is almost over.

P: Be our light and scatter the darkness.

C: And hear our evening hymn of praise.



1 Praise to God, im - mor - tal praise, For the love that
 2 All the plen - ty sum - mer pours, Au - tumn's rich, o'er -
 3 Peace, pros - per - i - ty, and health, Pri - vate bliss and
 4 As your pros - p'ring hand has blest, May we give you



crowns our days. Boun - teous Source of ev - 'ry joy,
 flow - ing stores, Flocks that whit - en all the plain,
 pub - lic wealth, Knowl - edge with its glad - d'ning streams,
 of our best And by deeds of kind - ly love



Let your praise our tongues em - ploy. All to you, our
 Yel - low sheaves of rip - ened grain— Lord, for these our
 True re - li - gion's ho - lier beams— Lord, for these our
 For your mer - cies grate - ful prove, Sing - ing thus through



God, we owe, Source whence all our bless - ings flow.
 souls shall raise Grate - ful vows and sol - emn praise.
 souls shall raise Grate - ful vows and sol - emn praise.
 all our days: "Praise to God, im - mor - tal praise."

The First Lesson: Deuteronomy 8:10-18

Moses looked ahead to a time of thanksgiving, when the nation of Israel would one day enter the prosperity of the promised land. Yet Moses reminded the Israelites, after they have entered the promised land, to not forget their God who had given it to them. To daily remember God's gifts and blessings and to give him thanks and praise.

¹⁰When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land he has given you. ¹¹Be 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. ¹²Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, ¹³and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, ¹⁴then 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. ¹⁵He 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. ¹⁶He 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. ¹⁷You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." ¹⁸But 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.

Psalm 30 (Read Responsively)

King David gathered all the temple materials, but it would be his son, King Solomon, who would build the temple of the Lord. King David writes a psalm of thanksgiving looking ahead to a time when the temple of the Lord would stand as the place to worship the one true God of faithfulness, power, and mercy.

A psalm. A song. For the dedication of the temple. Of David.

¹ I will exalt you, Lord, for you lifted me out of the depths
and did not let my enemies gloat over me.

² **Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.**

³ You, Lord, brought me up from the realm of the dead; you spared me from going down to the pit.

4 Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people; praise his holy name.

5 For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime;
weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.

6 When I felt secure, I said, “I will never be shaken.”

7 Lord, when you favored me, you made my royal mountain stand firm; but when you hid your face, I was dismayed.

8 To you, Lord, I called; to the Lord I cried for mercy:

9 “What is gained if I am silenced, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it proclaim your faithfulness?

10 Hear, Lord, and be merciful to me; Lord, be my help.”

11 You turned my wailing into dancing, you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,

12 that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent. Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever.

The Second Lesson: Philippians 4:4-9

As Paul concludes his letter to the Christians in Philippi, he encourages them to let their thanksgiving to God be evident in their life. A Christian’s life is a thankful life, not only in praise to God for all his earthly blessings but a life that rejoices in God’s eternal blessings of faith, forgiveness, life, and salvation.

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. ⁹Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.



1 Come, you thank-ful peo-ple, come; Raise the song of
 2 All the world is God's own field, Fruit un-to his
 3 For the Lord our God shall come And shall take his
 4 E-ven so, Lord, quick-ly come To your fi-nal



har-vest-home. All be safe-ly gath-ered in
 praise to yield; Wheat and weeds to- geth-er sown,
 har-vest home, From his field shall in that day
 har-vest-home; Gath-er all your peo-ple in,



Ere the win-ter storms be-gin. God our mak-er
 Un-to joy or sor-row grown. First the blade and
 All of-fens-es purge a-way, Give his an-gels
 Free from sor-row, free from sin, There, for-ev-er



shall pro-vide For our wants to be sup-plied. Come to
 then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap-pear. Lord of
 charge at last In the fire the weeds to cast, But the
 pu-ri-fied, In your gar-ner to a-bide. Come with



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

Sermon: Lamentations 3:22–26

²²Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. ²³They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ²⁴I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him."

²⁵The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; ²⁶it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

Give Thanks to the Lord!

1. For His faithfulness
2. For His salvation

Confession of the 4th Petition and Meaning

In the Lord's Prayer we pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." This confession and explanation on the 4th Petition reminds us what is meant by "daily bread" and all the daily blessings that come from the Lord to his people.

M: Give us this day our daily bread. *What does this mean?*

C: God surely gives daily bread without our asking, even to all the wicked, but we pray in this petition that he would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

M: What then is meant by daily bread?

C: Daily bread includes everything that we need for our bodily welfare, such as food and drink, clothing and shoes, house and home, land and cattle, money and goods, a godly spouse, godly children, godly workers, godly and faithful leaders, good government, good weather, peace and order, health, a good name, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

M: This is the Christian's trust and confidence in the Lord that, "My God will meet all your needs" (*Philippians 4:19*) and so, "Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; his love endures forever." (*Psalms 118:1*)

Offering

In thanksgiving for God's many earthly and even greater eternal blessings to his people, we now worship the Lord with our offerings.

Thanksgiving Prayer (Responsive)

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.

Thank you for the mountains and the prairies, the roaring sea, and the gentle breeze.

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.

Thank you for associates at work, for their encouragement and praise, and for the joys of human friendships.

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.

Thank you for children at play, their boundless energy, and their shouts of joy and laughter.

Thank you for the morning greetings we receive, and for all the smiles that come from faces loved by you.

Thank you for Christian friends, for their affection and their care.

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

Silent prayer.

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.

Lead us in thankful living today and always. Amen.



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and
 2 Oh, may this boun - teous God Through all our
 3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther



hands and voic - es, Who won - drous things has done,
 life be near us, With ev - er - joy - ful hearts
 now be giv - en, The Son, and him who reigns



In whom his world re - joic - es, Who from our
 And bless - ed peace to cheer us And keep us
 With them in high - est heav - en, The one e -



moth - er's arms Has blessed us on our way With
 in his grace And guide us when per - plexed And
 ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore! For



count - less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.
 free us from all ills In this world and the next.
 thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

Prayer at the Close of Day (*Compline*)

The musical score is written in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of eight staves of music. The lyrics are: "S: Guide us wak - ing, O Lord, C: and guard us sleep - ing S: that a - wake we may watch with Christ C: and a - sleep we may rest in peace. C: In peace, Lord, in peace you let your ser - vant now de - part ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry peo - ple, a".

S: Guide us wak - ing, O Lord,

C: and guard us sleep - ing

S: that a - wake we may watch with Christ

C: and a - sleep we may rest in peace.

C: In peace, Lord, in peace you let your ser - vant

now de - part ac - cord - ing to your word. For my

eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which

you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry peo - ple, a

light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the
glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

S: Guide us wak - ing, O Lord,

C: and guard us sleep - ing

S: that a - wake we may watch with Christ

C: and a - sleep we may rest in peace,

in peace, in peace.

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Blessing

The almighty and merciful Lord - the Father, the (+) Son, and the Holy Spirit bless us and keep us.

Amen.