



**Salem Lutheran Church**  
**Thanksgiving Eve**  
**November 24, 2021 – 7:00 pm**

*Welcome To*  
**SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**

1145 DeKalb Avenue  
Church Office: (815) 895-9171  
Web Site: [www.slcsycamore.org](http://www.slcsycamore.org)

*"Living Christ's Love"*

Sycamore, Illinois  
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**Thanksgiving Eve  
Holy Communion**

**November 24, 2021  
Wednesday – 7:00 pm**

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*

**⌘ GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**PRELUDE**                      *Come, Ye Thankful People Come*                      Alford

**WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHORAL INTROIT**                      *Now Thank We All Our God*                      arr. Carlson

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

**P:** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*(Silence is kept for reflection)*

Have mercy on us, O God.

**C:** **We confess that we have sinned against you and against our neighbor. We have built walls instead of tables and have turned away the stranger. We have sought glory for ourselves and have treasured that which does not satisfy. Help us to love as you love, to welcome those you send, and to treasure mercy and justice. Turn us from our ways to your ways, and free us to serve those in need. Amen.**

**P:** God, who makes all things new, forgives your sins for † Jesus' sake and remembers them no more. Lift up your heads and your hearts. Yours is the kingdom of God.

**C:** **Amen.**

*We give  
thanks*

**Let All Things Now Living**

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to  
 2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and



God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,  
 sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who  
 the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.  
 deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -  
 We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,  
 joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as  
 till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.  
 God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892-1980, alt. Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh Folk Tune

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## APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P:** The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C:** **And also with you**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P:** Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your 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.
- C:** **Amen.**

## ⌘ RECEIVING GOD'S WORD

### THE FIRST READING

**Joel 2:21-27**

*The prophet Joel understood that a locust plague that ravaged the land of Judah was God's judgment on the people, whom he then called to repentance. Today's reading points beyond the judgment to a time when God will bless the land and cause it to produce food in abundance.*

- A:** The First Reading is from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter of Joel ...

Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has done great things! Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the LORD your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

- A:** The word of the Lord.
- C:** **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 126

**A:** *Please join me in praying Psalm 126 responsively ...*

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,  
then were we like those who dream.

**C:** **Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.  
Then they said among the nations,  
“The LORD has done great things for them.”**

**A:** The LORD has done great things for us,  
and we are glad indeed.

**C:** **Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

**A:** Those who sowed with tears  
will reap with songs of joy.

**C:** **Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

## THE SECOND READING

**1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 2:1-7**

*Christians are encouraged to offer prayers and thanks for all people, including rulers. We offer such inclusive, far-reaching prayers because God desires to save all people.*

**A:** The Second Reading is from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter of 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy ...

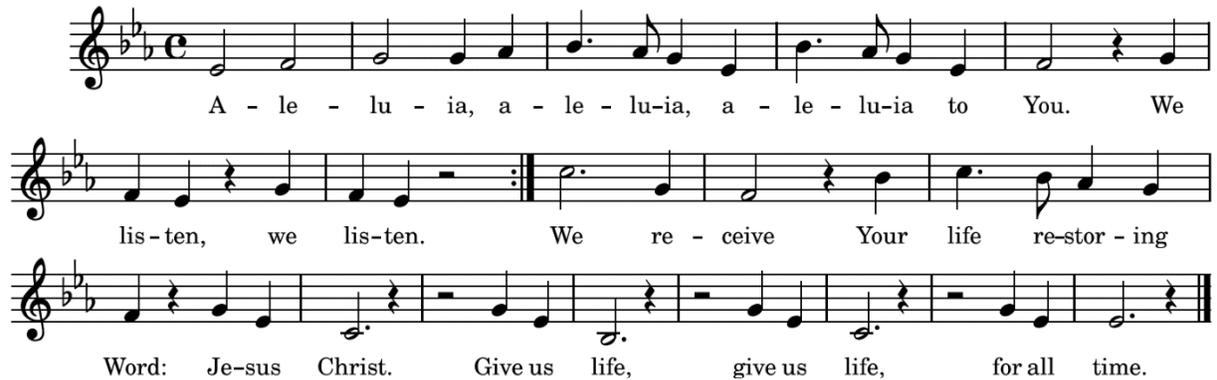
First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

**A:** The word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



A - le - lu - ia, a - le - lu - ia, a - le - lu - ia to You. We  
lis - ten, we lis - ten. We re - ceive Your life re - stor - ing  
Word: Je - sus Christ. Give us life, give us life, for all time.

## HOLY GOSPEL

**Matthew 6:25-33**

*In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus taught his disciples about the providence of God so that they would regard life with thanksgiving and trust rather than anxiety.*

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 6<sup>th</sup> Chapter ...

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

Jesus said, “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

### MESSAGE

**Pastor Preston Fields**

**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 and mo - thers;  
 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!

Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882-1963 Music: KREMSER, A. Valerius,  
 Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck, 1626 Public Domain  
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**THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**A:** *Let us profess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed ...*

**C:** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**A:** God whose giving knows no ending, you invite the whole world to your table of mercy. Hear us as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need.

*(A brief silence)*

God, you give all people a place at the table. Nurture and encourage campus ministries, new congregations, and workplace chaplaincies. Support all parts of the church that meet people where they are and offer accompaniment through daily challenges and joys. *God, in your mercy,*

**C: hear our prayer.**

**A:** You give nourishment to the birds of the air and the lilies of the fields. Sustain all creatures who rely on the earth for sustenance. Water parched ground, dry flooded fields, temper heat waves and frosts, and give sunlight and shade. *God, in your mercy,*

**C: hear our prayer.**

**A:** God, you give wisdom to your people. Enlighten all leaders. Inspire and guide President Biden; governor Pritzker; our local leaders, Mayor Braser, State Representative Keicher; and all who represent us in our government. Give them patience and perspective to choose wisely for our common good. *God, in your mercy,*

**C: hear our prayer.**

**A:** God, you give nourishment to those who hunger. Bring poverty and food insecurity to an end. Give dignity and adequate employment to those who are unemployed and underemployed. Bestow healing on those who need it, we pray today for **Bob, Sandy, Bonnie, Ellie, Joan, Mike, Bev, Scott, Betty, Jane, Phil** and those we say aloud or hold in our hearts.

*(wait 10 seconds)* Sustain us all at your welcoming banquet of love and justice. *God, in your mercy,*

**C: hear our prayer.**

**A:** God, you give community to those who are lonely. Be with our biological families, our chosen families, and our church family as we gather for the Thanksgiving holiday. Send your compassionate presence to those who are lonely, those who are separated or estranged from their families, and those whose loved ones have died. *God, in your mercy,*

**C: hear our prayer.**

**A:** God, you give a feast of endless thanksgiving. We are grateful for the saints gathered at your table who have gone before us. The church remembers this week Jehu (Jay-hoo) Jones, William Passavant, Justus Falckner, and Catharine of Alexandria. Unite us with them whenever we give thanks to you. *God, in your mercy,*

**C:** **hear our prayer.**

**P:** God, your welcome is wider than we can imagine. Receive our prayers for the sake of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us.

**C:** **Amen.**

## SHARING GOD'S PEACE

## OFFERING

*To Give Your Thanksgiving Festival Offering Electronically,  
please text "Salemlutherangive" to 833-732-9252  
or scan this QR code with your smartphone*



## OFFERING HYMN

*Bless This House*

Connor/Picket

## OFFERING PRAYER

**A:** Holy God, the earth is yours and everything in it, yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures. Come among us now in these gifts of bread and wine, and strengthen us to be your body for the world through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C:** **Amen.**



## ⌘ GATHERING AT GOD'S TABLE

### DIALOGUE

- 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 our thanks and praise.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.
- Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P: *Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:*  
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.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P: A feast of love is offered here for you and for all the saints.

### COMMUNION CANTICLE



Lamb of God, with love poured out you suf - fer with the world, have

mer-cy, have mer-cy. Lamb of God, who suf-fers with the  
world, grant us peace. grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

**COMMUNION HYMN**

*ELW Hymn 493*

***Taste and See***

*Refrain - All*

Taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord. Oh,  
taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

*Leader or All*

1 I will bless the Lord at all times.  
2 Glo-ri-fy the Lord with . . me.  
3 Wor-ship . . . the Lord, all you peo-ple.

Praise shall al-ways be on my lips;  
To-geth-er let us all . . . praise God's name.  
You'll want for noth-ing . . . if you ask.

my soul shall glo-ry in the Lord;  
I called the Lord, . . who an-swered me;  
Taste and see . . . that the Lord is good;

*Refrain*



for God has been so good to me.  
 from all my trou - bles I was set free.  
 in God we need put all our trust.

Text: James E. Moore Jr., b. 1951, based on Ps. 34  
 Music: TASTE AND SEE, James E. Moore Jr.  
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## HOLY COMMUNION

### TABLE BLESSING

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C:** **Amen.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**A:** Blessed Jesus, at this table, you have been for us both host and meal. Now send us forth to extend our tables and to share your gifts until that day when all feast together at your heavenly banquet.

**C:** **Amen.**

⌘ **GOING FORTH TO “Live Christ’s Love”**

### DEPARTURE BLESSING

**P:** May God give you grace never to sell yourself short, grace to risk something big for something good, and grace to remember the world is too dangerous for anything but truth and too small for anything but love. Almighty God, Father, Son, † and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**







*Worship Leaders . . .*

*Pastor Preston Fields  
Adam Swedberg, Assisting Minister  
Larry Schlawin, Sound Tech  
Peter Gehrig / Lila Ezell, Acolytes*

*Musicians:*

*Michael Carlson, Piano/Organ  
Celebration Voices*

*Bulletin Sponsors . . .*

*Adam & Chris Swedberg in honor of Evan's birthday.*



Prelude:

*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come, ELW 693*

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.

Music: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSO, George J. Elvey, 1816-1893

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Choral Introduction

*Now Thank We All Our God, ELW 840*

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586-1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878

Music: Johann cruger, 1698-16662; arr Michael Carlson

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Gospel Acclamation:

*Aleluia*

Music & Lyrics: Gary Rand

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Offering Hymn

*Bless This House*

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Communion Canticle:

*Lamb of God*

Music & Lyrics: Gary Rand

(Adapted from the traditional Agnus Dei)

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Departure Hymn:

*Give Thanks*

CCLI License #1667288.

Postlude:

*Taste and See, ELW 493*

Text: James E. Moore Jr., b. 1951, based on Ps. 34

Music: James E. Moore Jr.

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