

November 26, 2014

6:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship



"WE PREACH CHRIST CRUCIFIED..."

~ 1 CORINTHIANS 1:23

LUTHER MEMORIAL
CHURCH & SCHOOL K-8

134 21st Street
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

An Affiliate of the Church of the Lutheran Confession ♦ www.clclutheran.org

Rejoice
always,

Pray
without ceasing, in everything...

Give Thanks
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you!

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

9:00am Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00am Worship Service

Visit us on the web at: www.FDLlutheran.com

Church/Office (920) 922-7421

Pastor: Neal Radichel ♦ Principal: Dave Bernthal ♦ Teacher Jenn Ohlmann

Altar cloths are red; the color of fall, for sin, and the blood of our Savior who died for our sins!

Welcome to all!

AS WE GATHER HERE THIS EVENING...

How can we suffer when we live in the land of plenty? How can there be joy when we live in a world with so many problems? Both of these questions highlight our illogical existence as sinful human beings who are continually loved and blessed by an ever-gracious God who connects with us through His Word, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper. Through these means God gives us guidance every day. While it is difficult for Christians to squeeze into one day what takes an entire lifetime, yet we take opportunity this evening to thank God for loving us in spite of who we are---sinful people in constant need of God's forgiveness!

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

I. WE PREPARE TO MEET OUR LORD

PRAYER/INVOCATION

We invoke ("call upon") the name of our Triune God.

Pastor: We begin our Savior's thanksgiving worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit...

P: Dear Heavenly Father,

C: We thank You for creating the world and everything in it!

P: Lord Jesus,

C: We thank You for living the perfect life, dying for our sins, and rising to life again!

P: Holy Spirit,

C: We thank You for calling, gathering, educating, and making holy the whole Christian Church on earth!

ALL: (spoken) Amen!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P: Blessed are the poor in spirit,

All: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

P: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness,

All: for they shall be satisfied.

P: Lord God,

All: we confess to You that we often struggle to be thankful for what we have, especially when our hearts and minds are filled with desire for what we don't have. We worry unnecessarily about our future, when in our hearts we know that we are safe in Your hands. Forgive our thanklessness and our sin against You and against our neighbor. Fill us with the joy of Your presence and Your promise of eternal salvation.

P: Through the mercy and sacrifice of our Lord Jesus, we have all gained access to His grace by which we now stand. Therefore, by the command of Christ and the power of His cross, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Triune God: in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen. Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord; for He has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.

OPENING HYMN: #36 [Red Hymnal]

II. WE PRAISE OUR LORD

P: O Lord, open my lips...

And my mouth shall proclaim Your praise!

Musical notation for the first system, featuring a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes.

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me!

Make haste to help me, Oh Lord!

Musical notation for the second system, featuring a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the

Musical notation for the third system, featuring a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Ho - ly Ghost: As He was in the beginning, is now, and ev - er

Musical notation for the fourth system, featuring a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Shall be: for - ev - er - more. A - men. Hal - le - lu - jah!

Musical notation for the fifth system, featuring a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes.

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, Your mercies are new every morning and You graciously provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in holiness and purity of life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

ALL: AMEN!

III. OUR LORD SPEAKS TO US

OLD TESTAMENT *Genesis 41:41~42:2*

(Once sold into slavery, Joseph manages food storage in a time of famine. God used the evil done to Joseph for the good of others)

P: And Pharaoh said to Joseph,

Lector: "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."

P: Then Pharaoh took his signet ring from his hand and put it on Joseph's hand, and clothed him in garments of fine linen and put a gold chain about his neck. And he made him ride in his second chariot. And they called out before him,

ALL: "Bow the knee!"

P: Thus he set him over all the land of Egypt. Moreover, Pharaoh said to Joseph,

Lector: "I am Pharaoh, and without your consent no one shall lift up hand or foot in all the land of Egypt."

P: And Pharaoh called Joseph's name Zaphenath-paneah. And he gave him in marriage Asenath, the daughter of Potiphera priest of On. So Joseph went out over the land of Egypt. He was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh and went through all the land of Egypt. During the seven plentiful years the earth produced abundantly, and he gathered up all the food of these seven years, which occurred in the land of Egypt, and put the food in the cities. He put in every city the food from the fields around it. And Joseph stored up grain in great abundance, like the sand of the sea, until he ceased to measure it, for it could not be measured. Before the year of famine came, two sons were born to Joseph. Asenath, the daughter of Potiphera, priest of On, bore them to him. Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh.

Lector: "For," he said, "God has made me forget all my hardship and all my father's house."

P: The name of the second he called Ephraim,

Lector: "For God has made me fruitful in the land of my affliction."

P: The seven years of plenty that occurred in the land of Egypt came to an end, and the seven years of famine began to come, as Joseph had said. There was famine in all lands, but in all the land of Egypt there was bread. When all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for bread. Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians,

Lector: "Go to Joseph. What he says to you, do."

P: So when the famine had spread over all the land, Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe in the land of Egypt. Moreover, all the earth came to Egypt to Joseph to buy grain, because the famine was severe over all the earth. When Jacob learned that there was grain for sale in Egypt, he said to his sons,

Lector: "Why do you look at one another?" And he said, "Behold, I have heard that there is grain for sale in Egypt. Go down and buy grain for us there, that we may live and not die."

ALL: Thank the Lord for His deliverance!

Today's Meditation: "Bread from Heaven"

Part 1) Give us this day... our daily bread

CHILDREN'S HYMN

GOSPEL *Matthew 6:24-34*

(God is concerned about all aspects of our lives, including the smallest details. Since He provides, we need not worry.)

- 24** " No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. **25** " Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? **26** "Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? **27** "Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? **28** "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; **29** "and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. **30** "Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?
- 31** "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' **32** "For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. **33** "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. **34** "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Today's Meditation: **"Bread from Heaven"**

Part 2) Give us this day... the Bread of Life

MEDITATION HYMN: #442 [Red Hymnal]

CONFESSION OF FAITH ~ BOOK OF CONCORD

P: For young students it is enough to point out that the first article concerns the creation. We should stress the phrase, "Maker of heaven and earth." When you say, "I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth," what is it that you are saying? What do you mean by those words?

C: **"What I mean to say and what I believe is that I am a creation of God, that is, He gave me and continuously preserves for me my body, soul, and life, my bodily members great and small, all my senses, my reason and intellect, and so on, also food and drink, clothing, livelihood, spouse and child, servants, house and home, and so on; besides this He causes the necessities and comforts of life to be provided for me by everything in creation – the sun, the moon, the stars in the sky, day and night, air, fire, water, the earth and all that it can produce, birds, fish, animals, grains and all manner of produce. He also gives whatever other physical and temporal blessings there may be, such as good government, peace, security." Thus we learn from this article that no one of himself obtained or could by himself preserve his life or any of the things that have been mentioned or could still be added, no matter how small and unimportant. All this is included in the word "Creator."**

P: In addition, we also confess that God the Father not only gave us all that we have and see before our eyes, but He also daily protects and defends us against all evil and misfortune, turning aside danger and mishap of every sort. All this He does out of pure love and goodness, without our deserving it, like a kind father who takes care of us so that no harm may touch us.

C: **It follows self-evidently that, since everything that we possess as well as everything else in heaven and on earth is daily given, sustained, and preserved by God, therefore we in turn certainly owe it to Him to love, praise, and thank Him without ceasing and, in short, to serve Him wholly and completely, as He requires and enjoins us to do in the Ten Commandments.**

EPISTLE 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

(The Lord teaches us that giving begins in the heart. What the Lord sows in our hearts and lives we are privileged to return to Him!)

6 But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. 9 As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever." 10 Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, 11 while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.

Today's Meditation: ***"Bread from Heaven"***

Part 3) Give us this day... a heart that gives

THANKSGIVING HYMN: #793 [Tan Supplement]

IV. WE OFFER OURSELVES TO OUR LORD

AN OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS TO THE LORD

"So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver." ~ 2 Corinthians 9:7

FOLLOWED BY THE OFFERING HYMN: WS #788:3

***Blessed by You with gifts and graces, May we heed Your Spirit's call,
Gladly in all times and places, Give to You who gives us all.***

***You have bought us; now no longer, Can we claim to be our own;
Ever free and ever stronger, We shall serve You, Lord, alone.***

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

P: Let us give thanks to our heavenly Father, who has made us and provided for us; who guards and protects us, upholds and sustains us; who loves us with redeeming love in Jesus Christ, His Son.

ALL: Heavenly Father, THANK YOU!

P: Let us give thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Word of God who became flesh for us; who gave His life upon the cross for our redemption and was raised for our justification; who pleads for us before the throne of grace, and will come again to receive His faithful into everlasting life.

ALL: Lord Jesus, THANK YOU!

P: Let us give thanks to the Holy Spirit, by whom we are brought to saving faith in Jesus Christ, united with God's people in His holy family, graced with all the gifts of God, and empowered to live as God's beloved children, now and to all eternity.

ALL: Holy Spirit, THANK YOU!

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us how to pray:

ALL: 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.

V. OUR LORD BLESSES US

THE BENEDICTION

P: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. And the blessing of God Almighty--- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit---be and remain with you always.

ALL: (speaks) Amen!

CLOSING HYMN: #558 (2nd Tune) [Red Hymnal]

THANKSGIVING WELCOME!

A blessed Thanksgiving to you all in Christ Jesus! He is worthy of our thanks and praise each day. May God give us more appreciative and thankful hearts, for He *"has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ"* (Ephesians 1:3).

Please sign our entryway guest book and join us Sunday at 10am!