

November 24, 2022

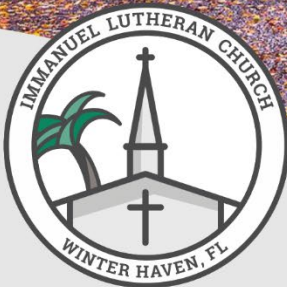
Thanksgiving Day

Organ: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Darrin Ream

Acolyte: Maxwell Kuehne

Now thank
WE ALL
Our God



1449 34th St. NW
Winter Haven, FL 33881
winterhavenlutheran.org

Vance Fossum, Pastor (803) 556-3161
Neil Bernthal, Teacher (863) 967-5145
Katie Naumann, Teacher (253) 230-4184

PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Psalm 34:1-10

I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.
2 My soul shall make its boast in the Lord; The humble shall hear of it and be glad.
3 Oh, magnify the Lord with me, And let us exalt His name together.
4 I sought the Lord, and He heard me, And delivered me from all my fears.
5 They looked to Him and were radiant, And their faces were not ashamed.
6 This poor man cried out, and the Lord heard him, And saved him out of all his troubles.
7 The angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him, And delivers them.
8 Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!
9 Oh, fear the Lord, you His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him.
10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger; But those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing.

Order of Divine Worship

Hymn: TLH #574

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

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

C ♪ **A - - - men.**

P Pastor

C Congregation

THANKSGIVING RESPONSIVE READING:

Psalm 100:1-4

P Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs.

C ♪ **Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done, In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mother’s arms Hath blessed us on our way
With countless fits of love And still is ours today.**

P Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His; We are his people, the sheep of His pasture.

C ♪ **Oh, may this bounteous God Thro’ all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us
And keep us in His grace And guide us when perplexed
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!**

P Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him and praise His name.

C ♪ **All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given,
The Son and Him who reigns With them in highest heave:
The one eternal God, Whom earth and heaven’ adore!
For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.**

INTROIT *Psalm 18, 40, 116, 117 with 34:1-2,11,22*

P I waited patiently for the Lord; He turned to me and heard my cry.

C **He lifted me out of the slimy pit; out of the mud and mire.**

P He set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.

C **He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.**

P I love the Lord, for He heard my voice; He heard my cry for mercy. The Lord is gracious and righteous; Our God is full of compassion. Because He turned His ear to me, I will call on Him as long as I live.

C **May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; May those who love Your salvation always say, "The Lord be exalted."**

P Many, O Lord my God, are the wonders You have done.

C **The things You planned for us no one can recount to You;**

P Were I to speak and tell of them, they would be too many to declare.

C **How can I repay the Lord for all His goodness to me?**

P I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

C **I will sacrifice a thank offering to You and call on the name of the Lord. I call to the Lord, who is worthy of praise.**

P Great is His love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.

Hymn:

"Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart"

♪ **Give thanks with a grateful heart; Give thanks to the Holy One; Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.**

Give thanks with a grateful heart; Give thanks to the Holy One; Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong." Let the poor say, "I am rich," Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

C **Lord God we fall before You in sorrow. Though You have given us many blessings, we so often fail to notice them much less give thanks for them. You bless us with freedom and safety, and we take it for granted. You pour out material blessings upon us, and we devour them, always looking for more, never content with what You have given. We care more about the gifts than we do about You, the Giver. Worst of all Lord, we let the things of this world and our desire for them obscure the most wonderful gift You have given – forgiveness through the death of Your Son.**

Forgive us for our thoughtless thanklessness, retune our hearts to sing Your grace. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

P Rejoice people of God! For your Father has heard your prayer. He has provided a sacrifice; you will not die. By the blood of Jesus Christ, all your sins have been washed away. As a minister of our Lord, according to His command and by His authority, all sins of thought and word and deed, your thanklessness and your selfishness, I forgive in the name of the Father and the son and the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Isaiah 40:12-18 Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, Measured heaven with a span And calculated the dust of the earth in a measure? Weighed the mountains in scales And the hills in a balance? 13 Who has directed the Spirit of the Lord, Or as His counselor has taught Him? 14 With whom did He take counsel, and who instructed Him, And taught Him in the path of justice? Who taught Him knowledge, And showed Him the way of understanding? 15 Behold, the nations are as a drop in a bucket, And are counted as the small dust on the scales; Look, He lifts up the isles as a very little thing. 16 And Lebanon is not sufficient to burn, Nor its beasts sufficient for a burnt offering. 17 All nations before Him are as nothing, And they are counted by Him less than nothing and worthless. 18 To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare to Him?

NEW TESTAMENT READING – Matthew 15:29-38 Jesus departed from there, skirted the Sea of Galilee, and went up on the mountain and sat down there. 30 Then great multitudes came to Him, having with them the lame, blind, mute, maimed, and many others; and they laid them down at Jesus' feet, and He healed them. 31 So the multitude marveled when they saw the mute speaking, the maimed made whole, the lame walking, and the blind seeing; and they glorified the God of Israel. 32 Now Jesus called His disciples to Himself and said, "I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now continued with Me three days and have nothing to eat. And I do not want to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way." 33 Then His disciples said to Him, "Where could we

get enough bread in the wilderness to fill such a great multitude?”
34 Jesus said to them, “How many loaves do you have?” And they
said, “Seven, and a few little fish.” 35 So He commanded the
multitude to sit down on the ground. 36 And He took the seven
loaves and the fish and gave thanks, broke them and gave them to
His disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitude. 37 So they all
ate and were filled, and they took up seven large baskets full of the
fragments that were left. 38 Now those who ate were four
thousand men, besides women and children.

Hymn: WS #793

“Sing to the Lord of Harvest”

SERMON – Romans 11:33-36 Oh, the depth of the riches both of
the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His
judgments and His ways past finding out! 34 “For who has known
the mind of the Lord? Or who has become His counselor?” 35 “Or
who has first given to Him And it shall be repaid to him?” 36 For of
Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory
forever. Amen.

GIVE GLORY TO GOD!

OFFERTORY

- C** ♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit
within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy
Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and
uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Hymn: TLH #30 v.1,4,5

“Oh, that I Had a Thousand Voices”

- OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS –

Followed immediately by the Offering Hymn printed below:

OFFERING: TLH #442:2

“Lord of Glory, Who Hast Bought Us”

- C** ♪ Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to yield Thee- Gladly, freely, of
Thine own; With the sunshine of Thy goodness Melt our thankless
hearts of stone Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by Thee,
at length believe That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give
than to receive.

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

C ♪ Amen, amen, a – men.

HYMN: TLH #568 “We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator”

✠ Announcements ✠

- ✠ **Nov. 24** 10:15am Thanksgiving Service WH
- ✠ **Nov. 26 10am** Christmas decorating at church
- ✠ **Nov. 27** 8am Orlando service 10:15 am WH
- ✠ **Nov. 30** Special Wednesday Advent Service at 2:00 pm
- ✠ **Dec. 2** Havendale Christmas Parade
- ✠ **Dec. 4** 9:15am Bible Class 10:15am Communion Service Christmas Cookie fellowship with Church Council, Trustee, and Elders’ meetings

Poinsettia There is a poinsettia list in the back of church. If you would like to donate money for a poinsettia “In Memory Only,” please sign the list and pay Teresa \$10.

Christmas Decorating Saturday, November 26 at 10:00 am we will be decorating the church in preparation for Advent which begins November 27. We will be decorating the tree, the church, and putting up the Nativity scene.

Advent Services Wednesday, November 30; Wednesday, December 7; and Wednesday, December 14 we will be having special mid-week Advent services at 2:00 pm at church. The early time service is so the school children can attend the services before school lets out. All are welcome to come. If you cannot make it, the service will be livestreamed. Prepare your hearts for the coming of our Lord and worship with us.

December 4 Pastor Fossum will be conducting Bible Class at 9:15 am followed by the communion service. After the service we will be having a fellowship snack of Christmas cookies and drinks. The Church Council, Trustees, and Elders will be meeting also.

Martin Luther on Thanksgiving “Ah, How Cold and Unappreciative Even Christians Are! “When we hear that Christ has redeemed us with His blood, we are moved precisely as much as a dunce is

moved when he hears that a hen has laid an egg. What kind of marvel is this? Says he; indeed, that happens every day. There is also no joy, comfort, thanks or wonderment when people hear of Christ's suffering. Oh, that is nothing new! Who does not know that? I have known it well for a long time. And so the dear Christ with His precious blood and His immeasurable works of wonder must be considered a trifling matter...In a word, in eternity we shall not be able to marvel enough at the work of Christ and to study it sufficiently; but here we stocks and stones pay precisely as much attention to it when we hear about it as we do to the falling of a rotten apple from a tree. We yawn and say: Well, have we not often seen a rotten apple fall from a tree? "I exhort you to hear this message with joy and delight and to accept it with thanks and sincerely to pray that Lord our God to give you a strong faith so that you may keep this teaching. Then the fruit will certainly follow in that you will from day to day become more humble, obedient, friendly, chaste, and pious. For it is the manner and nature of this teaching to make chaste, obedient, pious people. But those who do not want to accept the Gospel with love become seven times worse than they were before they accepted this teaching. One notices this everywhere. Therefore, be on your guard, for the little hour in which God will punish such ingratitude will certainly not fail to come. What the world has earned thereby will then appear."

So many reasons to be thankful! God has blessed us with many gifts: gifts of giving and sustaining our physical lives certainly, but also gifts of securing our deliverance from sin, death and the devil, and bestowing rich spiritual blessings on us as His adopted children. Some of these blessings of God may be more obvious than others. At times we only see or appreciate the physical gifts. When we are in poor health, a financial crisis, or short in some other "First Article" blessing, we become frustrated or even angry with God, instead of looking at those additional gifts from God which are much harder to see, but are of much greater value. May God teach us to see that all that we have is from His hand, and that the gifts that we truly cannot live without are the very ones He secured for us and promised to us eternally through His Son!

Cleaner (11/26): Bernthal | **Acolyte (11/27):** Seth Bernthal