REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 21, 2021
11:00 AM

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

It is therefore recommended . . . to set apart [a day] for solemn thanksgiving and praise, that with one heart and one voice the good people may express the grateful feelings of their hearts and consecrate themselves to the service of their divine benefactor. *- Samuel Adams, November 1, 1777*

If the only prayer you said in your whole life was, "thank you," that would suffice.
- Meister Eckhart, 13th Century Dominican theologian and mystic

CHURCH LIFE UPDATE Margaret LaMotte Torrence

MOMENT FOR DISCIPLESHIP Alyssa Hunek Adamson, Brentwood Elementary School

INTROIT *Jubilate Deo* Taizé
(Chancel Choir)

Jubilate deo omnis terra!
Servite domino in laetitia,
Halleluja, halleluja in laetitia.

Rejoice in the Lord, all the earth!
Serve the Lord with gladness,
Halleluia, halleluia, with gladness.

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 100
Robert Scholten

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.
Know that the Lord is God.

You have made us, and we are yours;
We are your people, and the sheep of your pasture.
We enter your gates with thanksgiving, and your courts with praise.
We give thanks to you and bless your name.

For the Lord is good.

Your steadfast love endures forever,
and your faithfulness to all generations.

*** HYMN 643** *Now Thank We All Our God* Nun Danket Alle Gott

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

** Those who are able are invited to stand.*

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
To Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
The one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
The God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Margaret LaMotte Torrence

Lord God, each week we proclaim that you have gone before us,
conquering death, and showing us a better way to live.
We believe, but we also are anxious.
We trust you, but we also want to make our own choices.
Forgive the timidity of our faith, O God.
Renew us with the energy of your Spirit.
Teach us how to live more faithfully, joyfully, and thankfully.

(silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

***SONG OF JOY** *Give Thanks* Henry Smith

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because of what the Lord has done for us. ***(repeat)***

And now let the weak say, "We are strong!"
Let the poor say, "We are rich
because of what the Lord has done for us!" ***(repeat)***

Give thanks. Give thanks.

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Dent Davis

SCRIPTURE READING Colossians 3:15-17

SERMON *"Saying Thank You"* Dent Davis

ANTHEM *All Things Bright and Beautiful* Lyrics by Cecil Alexander
(The Chancel Choir) Music by John Rutter

Refrain

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings. ***(Refrain)***

The purple headed mountains, the rivers running by,
The sunset and the morning that brightens up the sky; ***(Refrain)***

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one. ***(Refrain)***

He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty, who has made all things well***. (Refrain)***

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING Robert Scholten

For the world we live in, for things great and small,
beautiful and awesome, seen and unseen,
We thank you, O God.

For human life, for common hopes and hardships shared,
for abilities and attitudes, for tears and smiles, hopes and dreams,
We thank you, O God.

For work to do and strength to work, for friendship, humor, and encouragement,
We thank you, O God.

For the mystery and joy of marriage, for mutual forgiveness and burdens shared,
and secrets kept in love,
We thank you, O God.

For family and friends, for living together and eating together, for times of joy and learning,
We thank you, O God.

For the blessings of children, their energy and curiosity, their startling frankness,
and sudden sympathies,
We thank you, O God.

For those growing into adulthood, their high hopes, their impatience toward worn-out values,
and their passionate search for meaning,
We thank you, O God.

For growing up and growing old, for wisdom deepened by experience,
for rest in leisure, and for time made precious by its passing,
We thank you, O God.

For your help in times of doubt and sorrow, for the healing of disease,
for strength in temptation and protection in danger, for your companionship and love,
We thank you, O God.

For our church and community of faith, for the good news we receive by word and sacrament,
for faith and hope, and grace and mercy,
We thank you, O God.

For the gift of your unfailing love in Jesus Christ who lived and died
and lives again for our salvation,
for our hope in him and for the joy of serving him,
We thank and praise you, O God.

SOLO *Blessings* Laura Story
(Alyssa Hunek Adamson)

Verse 1

We pray for blessings, we pray for peace,
Comfort for family, protection while we sleep.
We pray for healing, for prosperity
We pray for your mighty hand to ease our suffering.
And all the while you hear each spoken need,
Yet love is way too much to give us lesser things.

Chorus 1

What if your blessings come through raindrops?
What if your healing comes through tears?
And what if a thousand sleepless nights
Are what it takes to know you're near
And what if trials of this life are your mercies in disguise?

Verse 2

We pray for wisdom, your voice to hear.
We cry in anger when we cannot feel you near.
We doubt your goodness, we doubt your love,
As if every promise from your Word is not enough.
And all the while you hear each desperate plea
And long that we'd have faith to believe. ***(Chorus 1)***

Bridge

When friends betray us, when darkness seems to win
We know the pain reminds this heart
That this is not, this is not our home.

Chorus 2

What if your blessings come through raindrops?
What if Your healing comes through tears?
And what if a thousand sleepless nights
Are what it takes to know you're near?
What if my greatest disappointments, or the aching of this life,
Is a revealing of a greater thirst his world can't satisfy?
And what if trials of this life, the rain, the storms, the hardest nights
Are your mercies in disguise?

CALL FOR THE OFFERING Steven Phillips

***HYMN 716** *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* Beach Spring

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door:
Gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;
Thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
All at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone.
Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred:
Ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call,
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

***BENEDICTION** Dent Davis

POSTLUDE *Now Thank We All Our God* S. Karg-Elert