

*Virtual Worship Service for the Lord's Day
Thanksgiving Sunday, November 20, 2022
Crossnore Presbyterian Church
200 Chapel Drive, P.O. Box 386
Crossnore, NC 28616*



Welcome and Church Family News (PDF attachment)

Choral Call to Worship # 645 *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*
<https://youtu.be/nKJP4k4nXD4> - First-Plymouth Church Lincoln Nebraska

Sing praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled,
and every faithless murmur stilled:
to God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty power has made
God's gracious mercy keepeth;
by morning glow or evening shade
God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.
Within the kingdom of God's might,
lo! all is just and all is right:
to God all praise and glory!

Call to Worship:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing that comes from heaven:

who knew us and chose us before the world began; who loves us so much that he calls us his own children;
who has brought us from darkness into light and filled us with his glorious power;
who has prepared an inheritance for us that will never spoil or fade;
who encourages and strengthens us in every good deed and word;
who comforts us in our troubles so that we can comfort others.

This is our God, the ultimate source of all things, and the One for whom we live.

Let's worship God together!

Hymn # 336 *We Gather Together*

<https://youtu.be/ahjZhZygvOY> - Hymn Charts

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens his will to make known;
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
so from the beginning the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glory be thine!

The Lord is never far away,
but, through all grief distressing,
an ever-present help and stay,
our peace and joy and blessing,
as with a mother's tender hand
God gently leads the chosen band:
to God all praise and glory!

Thus all my toilsome way along
I sing aloud thy praises,
that all may hear the grateful song
my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart;
both soul and body, take your part:
to God all praise and glory!

KREMSER

**We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!**

Call to Confession:

In the beauty of this space, in this sacred moment, in the fellowship we have with one another, we speak with God about our lives, about how we have followed and how we have faltered. Trusting in God's grace and mercy, let us make our confession together before God.

Unison Prayer of Confession:

Merciful and loving God: when we are ungrateful, remind us of your grace. When we are oblivious, open our eyes. When we are harsh, gentle our spirit. When we are apathetic, show us the needs of your children. When we demean ourselves, whisper that we are created in your image. When we lose all hope, show us the empty tomb. So shape us, and turn us around, that we will live with blessing and grace and light (moment of silent confession). In the name of Christ who is Love and Life. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

Sisters and brothers in Christ, let us proclaim the Good News: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, reconciled, loved, and changed.

Alleluia! Amen.

Response to God's Grace and Mercy # 647 *Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart*

GIVE THANKS

https://youtu.be/Dzfo_MpEDRg - St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Muncie, IN

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"

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. Give Thanks.

First Lesson: Psalm 95:1-7

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!

Special Music: *Take My Life and Let It Be*

<https://youtu.be/g5nPdAd2EEY>

Second Lesson: Thessalonians 5:13b-24

Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Sermon: "Giving Thanks in All Circumstances" (PDF attachment)

Rev. Kathy Campbell

Litany of Thanksgiving: (written by O. Eugene Pickett)

For the expanding grandeur of creation, worlds known and unknown, galaxies beyond galaxies, filling us with awe and challenging our imaginations:

We give thanks this day.

For this fragile planet earth, its times and tides, its sunsets and seasons:

We give thanks this day.

For the joy of human life, its wonders and surprises, its hopes and achievements:

We give thanks this day.

For our human community, our common past and future hope, our oneness transcending all separation, our capacity to work for peace and justice in the midst of hostility and oppression:

We give thanks this day.

For high hopes and noble causes, for faith without fanaticism, for understanding of views not shared:

We give thanks this day.

For all who have labored and suffered for a fairer world, who have lived so that others might live in dignity and freedom:

We give thanks this day.

For human liberty and sacred rites; for opportunities to change and grow, to affirm and choose:

We give thanks this day.

We pray that we may live not by our fears but by our hopes, not by our words but by our deeds.

We give thanks this day.

Hymn of Meditation # 14 *For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

<https://youtu.be/IUBMAi4jA1E> - First-Plymouth Church Lincoln Nebraska

**For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:**

Refrain:

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

**For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light: [Refrain]**

**For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight: [Refrain]**

**For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild: [Refrain]**

**For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven: [Refrain]**

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings:

Gratitude is one of the gifts we can offer to God, the One who showers us in blessings with each new morning. As we celebrate Thanksgiving with loved ones, let us remember those who are not gathering with family and friends, who do not sit down to an abundant feast, who do not know where their next meal or place to sleep will be. Let us share our gifts so that others will be blessed with food and shelter and loving community. Let us receive this morning's offering.

***Doxology # 606**

OLD HUNDREDTH

https://youtu.be/lldeoa_2kdY - The St. Mary Magdalene Church Choir, Orange, California

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Unison Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:**

Giving God, we give you thanks and praise for all of your gifts to us. We know that you are the source of every good thing, light and love come from you. You have created us and redeemed us through Christ, and you continue to breathe life into us through the power of your Holy Spirit. We now dedicate this offering to the work of your kingdom. May this collection be used wisely and diligently, that your love may be spread here and everywhere. As we dedicate this offering, we offer ourselves, too; for these gifts of money are but tokens of ourselves. Take and use us, that our hearts and hands may reach out in love and service. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Closing Hymn # 37 *Let All Things All Living*

ASH GROVE

Sung by Lebanon County Youth Chorus: <https://youtu.be/KpMCE1G3N7Q>

**Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God our Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
By guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, Pure light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Til shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.**

**By law God enforces. The stars in their courses,
The sun in its orbit, obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine,
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing,
With glad adoration a song let us raise,
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving
To God in the highest, hosanna and praise.**

Charge and Benediction:

May you live for one another and for God like never before, with open hands, minds, and hearts, Not just during the short days of this thanksgiving season, but for each and every day to come. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Amen.

O God,
We thank you for this earth, our home;
for the wide sky and the blessed sun,
for the ocean and streams,
for the towering hills and the whispering wind,
for the trees and green grass.

We thank you for our senses
by which we hear the songs of birds,
and see the splendor of fields of golden wheat,
and taste autumn's fruit,
rejoice in the feel of snow,
and smell the breath of spring flowers.

Grant us a heart opened wide to all this beauty;
and save us from being so blind
that we pass unseeing
when even the common thorn bush
is aflame with your glory.

For each new dawn is filled with infinite possibilities
for new beginnings and new discoveries.

Life is constantly changing and renewing itself.

In this new day of new beginnings with God,
all things are possible.

We are restored and renewed in a joyous awakening
to the wonder that our lives are and, yet, can be. Amen.

~ written by Walter Rauschenbusch (1861-1918)