

Sunday October 13, 2024,  
Thanksgiving Sunday  
We Gather to Celebrate God's Presence

Welcome  
Family Life and Work  
Family Celebrations  
Lighting of the Christ Candle:  
Acknowledgment of the Land:

Introit: And on This Path

MV 8

**And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide,  
And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide,  
And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide!  
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!  
The gates are open wide!**

**So enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide,  
So enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide,  
So enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide,  
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!  
The gates are open wide!**

Call to Worship:

Give thanks.

**We give thanks for the harvest.**

Give thanks.

**We give thanks for the blessings of family and friends.**

Give thanks.

**We give thanks for the blessings of our faith, for Jesus the Christ and the freedom to share these blessings to those in our family, our church community, and the world.**

Give thanks.

**How wonderful it is when God's people gather in unity!**

Prayer of Approach: (unison)

**O God, in your Son Jesus Christ you richly bless us with all that we need, bread from the earth and the bread of heaven, which gives life to the world. Grant us one thing more: grateful hearts to sing your praise, in this world and the world to come, we ask in Jesus' name, and in His words we say together, Our Father.... Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer (unison)**

**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 for ever and ever. Amen**

Opening Hymn: We Plough the Fields

VU 520

**1 We plough the fields and scatter  
the good seed on the land,  
but it is fed and watered  
by your almighty hand;  
you send the snow in winter,  
the warmth to swell the grain,  
the breezes and the sunshine,  
and soft refreshing rain.**

**All good gifts around us  
are sent from heaven above;  
we thank you, God, O holy God,  
for all your love.**

**2 You only are the maker  
of all things near and far;  
you paint the wayside flower,  
you light the evening star;  
the winds and waves obey you,  
by you the birds are fed;  
much more to us, your children,  
you give us daily bread. R**

**3 We thank you then, O Maker,  
for all things bright and good,  
the seed-time and the harvest,  
our life, our health, our food;**

**accept the gifts we offer  
for all your love imparts,  
and, what from us you long for,  
our humble, thankful hearts. R**

First Reading: Psalm 100

Children's Time: Leaves of Thanksgiving

Solo: Ploughshare Prayer, Bob Bruer

**Dear blessed creator, dear mother, dear savior  
Dear father, dear brother, dear holy other**

**Dear sibling, dear baby, dear patiently waiting  
Dear sad & confused, dear stuck & abused**

**Dear end of your rope, dear worn out & broke  
Dear go it alone, dear running from home**

**Dear righteously angry, forsaken by family  
Dear jaded & quiet, dear tough & defiant**

**I pray that I'm heard  
And I pray that this works**

**I pray if a prayer has been used as a sword  
Against you & your heart  
Against you & your word**

**I pray that this prayer is a plowshare of sorts  
That it might break you open**

**It might help you grow  
I pray that your body gets all that it needs  
And if you don't want healing**

**I just pray for peace  
I pray that your burden gets lighter each day**

**I pray the mean voice in your head goes away  
I pray that you honor the grief as it comes**

**I pray you can feel all the life in your lungs**

**I pray that if you go all day being brave**

**That you can go home, go to bed  
Feeling safe**

**I pray you're forgiven. I pray you forgive  
I pray you set boundaries & openly live**

**I pray that you feel you are worth never leaving  
I pray that you know I will always believe you**

**I pray that you're heard  
And I pray that this works**

**Amen on behalf of the last & the least  
On behalf of the anxious, depressed & unseen**

**Amen for the workers, the hungry, the houseless  
Amen for the lonely & recently spouseless**

**Amen for the queers & their closeted peers  
Amen for the bullied who hold in their tears**

**Amen for the mothers of little Black sons  
Amen for the kids who grow up scared of guns**

**Amen for the addicts, ashamed & hungover  
Amen for the calloused, the wisened, the sober**

**Amen for ones who want life to be over  
Amen for the leaders who lose their composure**

**And amen for the parents who just lost their baby  
Amen for chronically ill & disabled**

**Amen for the children down at the border  
Amen for the victims of our law & order**

**I pray that you're heard  
And I pray that this works**

**I pray if a prayer has been used as a sword  
Against you & your heart**

**Against you & your word  
I pray that this prayer is a plowshare of sorts**

Gospel Reading: Philippians 4: 1 - 9

We Listen

Gradual Hymn: Silent Spring

**Now is the time for a reckoning,  
now all is flowering and flourishing,  
God, help your children  
mindfully listen:  
soon there may be just a silent spring.  
Silent Spring, Silent Spring**

**Silent the voices in bush and tree,  
silent the creatures of air and sea,  
God, help your children  
mindfully listen:  
ours are the hands that took earth for free.  
Silent Spring, Silent Spring**

**We are the root of the earth's unease,  
we are the pirates who dredge the seas,  
God, help your children  
mindfully listen:  
ours is the creed doing as we please.  
Silent Spring, Silent Spring**

**We are the spenders of precious store,  
we are the greedy who take no score,  
God, help your children  
mindfully listen:  
ours are the mouths wanting more and more.  
Silent Spring, Silent Spring**

**We take the bounty of all you give,  
we are the sorrow that makes you grieve,  
God, help your children  
mindfully listen:  
mindfully choose how the world will live!  
Silent Spring, Silent Spring**

## **Silent Spring, Silent Spring**

Meditation:

### We Respond

Musical Offering: Song of Thanks

Offertory: For the Gift of Creation

VU 538

**for the gift of creation, the gift of your love,  
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,  
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.  
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.**

Offertory/Prayer of Dedication:

Closing Hymn: Come, You Thankful People, Come

VU 516

- 1      Come, you thankful people, come,  
         raise the song of harvest home!  
         All is safely gathered in,  
         safe before the storms begin;  
         God, our maker, does provide  
         for our needs to be supplied:  
         come to God's own temple, come,  
         raise the song of harvest home!**
  
- 2      All the world is God's own field,  
         harvests for God's praise to yield;  
         wheat and weeds together sown,  
         here for joy or sorrow grown;  
         first the blade, and then the ear,  
         then the full corn shall appear:  
         Harvest-giver, grant that we  
         wholesome grain and pure may be.**
  
- 3      For our God, one day, shall come,  
         and shall take this harvest home;  
         from the field shall in that day  
         all offences purge away;  
         giving angels charge at last**

**in the fire the weeds to cast;  
but the fruitful ears to store  
in the garner evermore.**

**4 Even so, God, quickly come  
to your final harvest home!  
Gather all your people in,  
free from sorrow, free from sin;  
there for ever purified,  
in your presence to abide:  
come, with all your angels, come,  
raise the glorious harvest home.**

Benedictions and Commissioning

Choral Benediction: Walk With the Lord

Besig

**Walk with the Lord  
Go from this place,  
Filled with His everlasting grace.**

**Walk with the Lord  
Go where He leads  
Blessed by His love and His peace.**

**Each day you live,  
In all you do,  
let the light of Christ be found in you**

**Walk with the Lord  
Trust and obey  
Go now and serve Him in faith  
Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen.**