

Thanksgiving



Thanksgiving Service, Tuesday, November 22, 2011 6:30 PM

Prayer of Blessing

Psalm 65

Litany of Praise

1: Male 2: Female

1: Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; and to you shall vows be performed, O you who answer prayer!

2: To you all flesh shall come. When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions.

1: Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple.

2: By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation; you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

1: By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might. You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples.

2: Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs; you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.

1: You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

2: You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

1: You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

All: The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

We Gather Together

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, were at our side, all glory be Thine!

We all do extol Thee, Thou Leader triumphant,
And pray that Thou still our Defender will be.
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation;
Thy Name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

Thoughts about Thanksgiving

Count Your Blessings

When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed,
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

(Refrain)

*Count your blessings, name them one by one,
Count your blessings, see what God hath done!
Count your blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.*

Are you ever burdened with a load of care?
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?
Count your many blessings, every doubt will fly,
And you will keep singing as the days go by.

Refrain

When you look at others with their lands and gold,
Think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold;
Count your many blessings. Wealth can never buy
Your reward in heaven, nor your home on high.

Refrain

So, amid the conflict whether great or small,
Do not be disheartened, God is over all;
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,
Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.

Refrain

Sharing our Blessings

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.
God our Maker doth provide for our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field, fruit unto His praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear;
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take His harvest home;
From His field shall in that day all offenses purge away,
Giving angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast;
But the fruitful ears to store in His garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come, bring Thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,
There, forever purified, in Thy garner to abide;
Come, with all Thine angels come, raise the glorious harvest home

Confession

Pastor: If we forget that you, O God, created the earth and all that is in it;

People: Forgive us, Lord.

Pastor: If through carelessness, selfishness, or ignorance, we waste precious resources;

People: Forgive us, Lord.

Pastor: If we seek from the earth only personal gain and material wealth;

People: Forgive us, Lord.

Pastor: If we fail to declare with our lips and our lives that all thanks belongs to you;

People: Forgive us, Lord, and by your Spirit, make us grateful for your merciful goodness.

Pastor: God, in your presence, we believe that your forgiveness has been granted to us. We thank you for the prospect of the harvest of love, joy, faith, peace in our hearts, because of your forgiveness to us and because of our forgiveness of each other.

ALL: Amen

Lord's Supper

Benediction

The bread of heaven gives life to the believer.
We have received the bread and have eaten. So live

**We will turn to God daily for nourishment.
We will give thanks with grateful hearts.**

The bread of heaven gives life to the church.
Share the bread, share your stories.

**We will gather in the community of faith.
We will share the bread and share our lives.**

The bread of heaven gives life to the world.
Pass on the gift with joy to neighbors near and far.

**We will bless the world with acts of love.
This is our highest thanksgiving to God.**

Amen.

Amen.