

Thanksgiving Day

November 27, 2025 (USA)

Thanksgiving Day (Year C)

A life characterized by gratitude is one that focuses on the more excellent things, as Paul said so eloquently, “Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.” When we focus on all that God has given us, we have no other response than gratitude.



THIS WEEK’S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 8:1-10

Remember the Wilderness

The Word of the Lord came to the people Israel, reminding them to remember the time they spent in the wilderness on their way to the Promised Land. The trials and testing of the people were used by God to help them examine their allegiances and to learn to trust in the One who was steadfast in his love for them.

Psalm 100

He Made Us; We Are His

Make a joyful noise, sang the psalmist, and serve him with a glad heart. The Lord is our God and he made us — we are the sheep of his pasture.

Second Lesson: Philippians 4:6-20

Whatever is Commendable

As Paul ended his letter to the Christians in Philippi, he urged them to focus on all things positive and uplifting, including anything good they might have learned from his witness to them. His friends in Philippi had been generous to him and he thanked them for their gift.

Gospel Lesson: Luke 17:11-19

One Leper Praises God

Luke recounts a story from Jesus’ life in which he healed ten lepers of their dreaded disease. Only one of the ten returned to give thanks to Jesus for his mercy. That one, a Samaritan, dropped to his knees at Christ’s feet and thanked him profusely. Jesus remarked in that moment, “Were there not ten who were healed?”

Suggestions for the Sunday:

- * The liturgical color is green.
- * The Kyrie OR the Hymn of Praise may be used during Ordinary Time.
- * Use the Apostles’ Creed.
- * Consider a mission project in which the entire congregation can get involved during the week of Thanksgiving as a sign of gratefulness for God’s bounty. It could be a meal cooked and delivered, a random act of kindness in the community, or simply inviting someone with no family to eat with your family.
- * Consider posting a large piece of paper on a wall in the sanctuary and asking people to draw on it or write some words about what they are thankful for. Leave it up for a few weeks.

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
Sing to the Lord of Harvest	412	---	893	694	262	262
We Praise You, O God	241	---	785	870	35	35
Now Thank We All Our God	534	---	895	839	50	50
Come, You Thankful People, Come	407	---	892	693	261	261
For the Fruit of All Creation	563	---	894	679	---	---
All People That on Earth Do Dwell	245	---	791	883	17	17
Let Us Break Bread Together	212	---	---	471	83	83
We Plow the Fields and Scatter	362	---	---	680	263	263
Soul, Adorn Yourself (Deck Thyself)	224	---	636	488	81	81

The hymn suggestions above can be found in: LBW=Lutheran Book of Worship, WOV=With One Voice, ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Augsburg Fortress); LSB=The Lutheran Service Book (Concordia Publishing), REC=The ReClaim Hymnal for Church and Home (ReClaim Resources), and *** means you can find it on SOWeR at “Hymns and Music.”

CONTEMPORARY SONGS

Praise Song Titles

This is Amazing Grace
(CCLI# 6333821)
Ten Thousand Reasons
(CCLI# 6016351)
Because of Your Love
(CCLI# 4662501)
Salvation Belongs to Our God
(CCLI# 24092)
Blessed Be Your Name
(CCLI# 3798438)

The contemporary song suggestions above are noted by their CCLI number. To print these songs, a congregation must have a CCLI license.