



THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE **October 8, 2007**

WE GATHER IN THANKSGIVING

Welcome and Announcements

Silent Prayer (followed unannounced by): *PB #48: He Has Made Me Glad*

Call to Worship (Psalm 100 responsively)

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

All: Worship the Lord with gladness, come before him with joyful songs.

Know that the Lord is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his;

All: we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving

and his courts with praise;

Give thanks to him and praise his name.

**All: For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

* Songs of Thankfulness

1. "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" PsH 527

2. "Let All Things Now Living" PsH 453

* God's Greeting

* Responsive Prayer

WE GIVE THANKS FOR OUR NATION

Reader 1: As we gather for this Thanksgiving Day, we count our blessings, one by one, and realize that we don't often show enough appreciation for the bounty that is ours.

Reader 2: For the wide open prairies and the big blue sky above.

Reader 1: for the great Douglas Fir, for maple trees and evergreens,

Reader 2: for the prairie's sunflowers and brilliant canola, and for fields of wheat.

Reader 1: for our great lakes, vast oceans and the majestic Rocky Mountains,

Reader 2: for 4 distinct seasons, for permafrost and snowdrifts, and for midnight sun

Reader 1: for every divinely painted acre of this sweet land of ours,

All: we give you praise.

Reader 2: For Alberta beef and PEI potatoes,

Reader 1: for Ontario peaches and BC apples,

Reader 2: for Taber corn and Quebec's maple syrup,

Reader 1: for Saskatoon berries and pumpkin pies,

Reader 2: for Atlantic lobster and Pacific salmon,

Reader 1: for every home-cooked meal and home-grown harvest,

All: we give you praise.

Reader 2: O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,

Reader 1: we thank you this day for:

Reader 2: police and firefighters,

Reader 1: for nurses, doctors and the EMTs,

Reader 2: for teachers, farmers and scientists,

Reader 1: for the leaders of our cities, our provinces and of our country,

Reader 2: for our soldiers in the Canadian Forces, at home and abroad,

Reader 1: for Air Force Cadets and Navy Reservists,

Reader 2: for all who serve,

All: we thank them and we thank you, O God, our creator and redeemer.

Reader 1: for Psalm 23 and Ecclesiastes 3,

Reader 2: for “How Great Thou Art” and “Morning Has Broken,”

Reader 1: for “Amazing Grace” and “Jesus Loves Me,”

All: we give you praise.

Reader 2: Father, we join with heart and voice all the people from sea to sea to honor and thank you.

Reader 1: We ask you, Lord, as our forefathers and mothers did, to secure for our country and for all peoples of the world the greatest blessings of freedom and peace.

All: O God, hear our prayer. Amen.

* Song: “We Praise You, O God” PsH 237

Responsive Prayer (**Congregational response in bold**)

WE GIVE THANKS FOR (AND WITH) OUR CHILDREN

In the words of our young children:

For our moms and dads who take care of us, for our grandmas and grandpas who love us and visit us and who take us to church,

we give you thanks, O God.

For warm houses in cold weather,

for hospitals that take care of sick people,

for good schools where teachers make learning fun,

we give you thanks, O God.

For friends to play with, little brothers and sisters to play with, for special family holidays, for hockey teams to watch and sports to play, and for pictures that I can draw,

we give you thanks, O God.

For food like hotdogs, hamburgers and spaghetti

and a country that has so much I can even go door to door and ask for candy.

we give you thanks, O God.

For our imaginations, songs I make up, funny books to read, and television,

we give you thanks, O God.

For a big church to sing in, for my dad who can preach in my church and for all the people here who make our church a place to worship Jesus,

we give you thanks, O God.

For my puppy Sable, my dog Kamiko, my grandma’s dog Disney, my dog Cocoa, my fish Vanilla and for everyone’s special pets that they love.

we give you thanks, O God.

For Jesus, who came down and died for me. And because we can be here together with Him.

we give you thanks, O God. Amen.

Children's Song: *Praise Book #9: Praise Him, Praise Him*

WE GIVE THANKS IN SHARED VOICE AND SHARED GIVING

Offering of Thanksgiving: (FOOD BANK ITEMS)

Offertory: "God Is Here" PsH 516

Scripture Reading

Thanksgiving Meditation

* Song of Response: "Now Thank We All Our God" PsH 454

* Litany (**Congregational response in bold**)

WE GIVE THANKS FOR OUR CHURCH

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our Rock,
our Fortress and our Deliverer.

Let us remember his mercy, for he is gracious and compassionate.

We thank you, Lord, for calling us to faith in Christ,

**for putting your Spirit within us,
for giving us the mind of Christ,
for gathering us into your church.**

We thank you, Lord,

for extending your grace to us,

for beckoning us to a life of gratitude,

for calling us to service in your kingdom.

Thanks be to God!

Let us give thanks to the Lord, for he satisfies the thirsty.

He fills the hungry with good things, and he heals the afflicted.

Let us celebrate God's abundant goodness.

We thank you, gracious Father, that you provide for all of our needs.

We praise you, Lord.

For all your gifts that go beyond our basic needs,

for the things that make our work easier,

for the conveniences of modern life,

for the beauty and pleasure that you bring into our lives and church.

Thanks be to God!

WE LEAVE TO LIVE OUT OUR THANKS

* Benediction

* Doxology: *Psalter Hymnal # 631: Praise and Thanksgiving*

* denotes congregation standing (if you are able)

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**All: we are his people, the sheep of his
pasture.**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;

Give thanks to him and praise his name.

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endures forever; his faithfulness
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Reader 1: we thank you this day for:

Reader 2: police and firefighters,

Reader 1: for nurses, doctors and the EMTs,

Reader 2: for teachers, farmers and scientists,

Reader 1: for the leaders of our cities, our provinces and of our country,

Reader 2: for our soldiers in the Canadian Forces, at home and abroad,

Reader 1: for Air Force Cadets and Navy Reservists,

Reader 2: for all who serve,

All: we thank them and we thank you, O God, our Creator and Redeemer.

Reader 1: for Psalm 23 and Ecclesiastes 3,

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All: O God, hear our prayer. Amen.

* Song: "We Praise You, O God" *PsH 237*

Responsive Prayer

(Congregational response in bold)

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AND WITH OUR CHILDREN**

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and visit us and who take us to church,

we give you thanks, O God.

For warm houses in cold weather,
for hospitals that take care of sick people,
for good schools where teachers make
learning fun,

we give you thanks, O God.

For friends to play with, little brothers and
sisters to play with, for special family holidays,
for hockey teams to watch and sports to play,
and for pictures that I can draw,

we give you thanks, O God.

For food like hotdogs, hamburgers and
spaghetti, and a country that has so much I
can even go door to door and ask for candy.

we give you thanks, O God.

For our imaginations, songs I make up, funny
books to read, and television,

we give you thanks, O God.

For a big church to sing in, for my dad who
can preach in my church and for all the
people here who make our church a place to
worship Jesus.

we give you thanks, O God.

For my puppy Sable, my dog Kamiko, my
grandma's dog Disney, my dog Cocoa, my
fish Vanilla and for everyone's special pets
that they love.

we give you thanks, O God.

For Jesus, who came down and died for me.
And because we can be here together with
Him.

we give you thanks, O God. Amen.

Children's Song: *Praise Book #9:
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**for putting your Spirit within us,
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for gathering us into your church.**

We thank you, Lord,
for extending your grace to us,
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