

*Happiness is...*



Possible | Generous | Thankful

November 23, 2016  
Thanksgiving Eve Worship

**PRELUDE** “Now Thank We All Our God”

arr. Albert Travis

*Organ*

## **WELCOME and RELATIONSHIPS of PEACE**

**OPENING HYMN** “Now Thank We All Our God” [LW 443]

### **OPENING LITURGY**

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

**C: And His mercy endures forever.**

P: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name.

**C: Make known His deeds among the peoples!**

P: God blesses us with gifts of love:

**C: With food and clothing, home and family.**

P: God blesses us with daily work:

**C: And all we need from day to day.**

P: God protects us in time of danger:

**C: And guards us from every evil.**

P: God calls us into relationship with Him:

**C: And forms us into one holy people together.**

P: Therefore we shall offer thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

**C: O Lord our God, we will give thanks to you forever.**

### **LUTHER’S EVENING PRAYER**

**C: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen**

### **OFFERING**

“A Gaelic Improvisation”

Charles Callahan

*Organ*

## **OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 25:1-8 [NIV]**

<sup>1</sup>LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago. <sup>2</sup>You have made the city a heap of rubble, the fortified town a ruin, the foreigners' stronghold a city no more; it will never be rebuilt. <sup>3</sup>Therefore strong peoples will honor you; cities of ruthless nations will revere you. <sup>4</sup>You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat. For the breath of the ruthless is like a storm driving against a wall <sup>5</sup>and like the heat of the desert. You silence the uproar of foreigners; as heat is reduced by the shadow of a cloud, so the song of the ruthless is stilled. <sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines. <sup>7</sup>On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; <sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth. The LORD has spoken.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **HOLY GOSPEL John 10:1-10 [NIV]**

<sup>1</sup>“Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice.” <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

<sup>7</sup>Therefore Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **SERMON HYMN “We Praise You, O God” [LW 494]**

**SERMON “HAPPINESS IS THANKFUL”**

*Our service will continue in the Fellowship Hall.*

**WORDS of INSTITUTION**

**CLOSING HYMN “Doxology”**

**Be present at our table Lord,  
Be here and everywhere adored.  
These mercies bless and grant that we  
May feast in paradise with Thee.**

**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.**

SERMON: *Rev. James L. Mueller*  
LITURGIST: *Rev. Morgan Hamilton*