



SHARING GOD LOVE

Sharing God's Love is a ministry that offers assistance to people in our community who are having difficulty meeting their everyday needs. We offer assistance with food, clothing and light bills. In 1984 the churches in our community came together to answer God's call to collectively offer assistance to our neighbors in their time of need. Truly sharing God's love with real help and words of hope. Over the years, together, we have helped thousands of men, women, children, and the elderly from our community. Most only need help once or twice. Sharing God's Love strives to be good stewards with every blessing we receive, so each family is respectfully vetted before assistance is given. We continue to do the same work that began 38 years ago and God continues to grow the ministry. Thank you for the prayers and the support you generously give to Sharing God's Love.

In loving thanks for their participation

Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Rev. Gary Loadholdt  
Rev. Amanda Burke

McGregor Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Robyn Garrison

St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
Rev. Anna Brawley

Pine Grove AME Church  
Rev. James Dennis

Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Jana Light Creighton  
Dr. Lloyd Pilkington



Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church  
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sopc.net



SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

Thursday, November 17, 2022

7:00 pm

Welcome! We pray that you will truly experience  
God's love and grace as you worship!

PRELUDE:

*Lasst uns erfreuen*

Gerald Peterson  
Dr. Lloyd Pilkington

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

\*GATHERING SONG # 336

*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 wast at our side; all glory be thine!**

**We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant, and pray that thou still our defender wilt be. Let thy congregation escape tribulation; thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!**

\*LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Robyn Garrison

Garrison

One: Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us. For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea, **All: We thank you, Lord.**

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ, **All: We thank you, Lord.**

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends, **All: We thank you, Lord.**

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve, **All: We thank you, Lord.**

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play, **All: We thank you, Lord.**

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity, **All: We thank you, Lord.**

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice, **All: We thank you, Lord.**

For the communion of saints, in all times and places, **All: We thank you, Lord.**

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;

To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Rev. James Dennis

Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Rev. James Dennis

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

\*Please stand in body or in spirit.

SECOND READING

Psalm 100

Rev. Anna Brawley

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands! Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with a song.

**All: Know that the Lord is God, our maker to whom we belong; we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.**

One: Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving and the courts with praise; give thanks and bless God's holy name.

**All: Good indeed is the Lord, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from age to age.**

THIRD READING

Philippians 4:4-9

Rev. Amanda Burke

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you. This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

\*GOSPEL

Matthew 6:25-33

Rev. Gary Loadholdt

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith. Therefore, do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well.

The Word of the Lord for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

MEDITATION

*Live Thanks*

Rev. Gary Loadholdt

\*HYMN OF THE DAY # 475

*Come, Thou Fount*

**Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above; praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.**

**O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rev. Anna Brawley

United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world. We give thanks for the church in every land. Sustain the faithful with your living word. Inspire radical hospitality toward all who are searching, and call us into a more generous way of living. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for the earth. Bring forth plentiful harvests and renew our commitment to share abundantly. Preserve the lands and waters that bring nourishment. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for leaders in our communities. Kindle a passion for justice and peace in every national and local elected official. Curb selfish impulses and guide us toward collaborative solutions. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

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We give thanks for all who provide for others. Sustain caregivers, social workers, and volunteers in their efforts. Provide homes, food, employment, and medical care to all who are struggling. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for **these** congregations and those who plan worship. Guide deacons, pastors, musicians, and lay leaders in their creation of meaningful experiences. Instill in us a sense of joy and wonder when we come to worship you. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

**A moment for spoken or silent intercessions may be offered.**

We give thanks for the faithful who now rest in you. Teach us by their example and bring us with them into your loving embrace. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Accept these prayers, gracious God, and those known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

YOUTH SKIT

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

OFFERING

*Now Thank We All Our God*  
Sharing God's Love

Combined Choirs

\*DOXOLOGY

**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. Amen**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. James Dennis

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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, forever and ever. Amen.**

BLESSING

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

\*SENDING SONG # 39

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee. Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not. As though has been thou forever wilt be.**

**Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning, new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

**Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Refrain**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide, strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow; blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Refrain**

\*DISMISSAL

All Pastors

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

\*POSTLUDE

*St. George's Windsor*

Jason Payne

\*Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for refreshments.