



**DAY OF  
THANKSGIVING**  
Thursday,  
November 27, 2014

*Use any portions of this leaflet at your Thanksgiving table.*

*Christ is the fount of all our blessings*

*At harvest time we join the psalmist in offering thanksgiving to God: "You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty." We are grateful for the abundance of the good things of God's creation. Paul reminds us that our thanksgiving overflows into generosity. As the body of Christ in the world, we give ourselves away as bread for the hungry.*

## SHORT PRAYER

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

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. (ELW228)  
**Amen.**

## PSALM

### PSALM 65

(ICEL)

*You crown the year with riches (65:11)*

Praise is yours, God in Zion.

**Now is the moment to keep our vow, for you,  
God, are listening.**

All people come to you bringing their shameful deeds.

**You free us from guilt, from overwhelming sin.**

Happy are those you invite and then welcome  
to your courts.

**Fill us with the plenty of your house,  
the holiness of your temple.**

You give victory in answer to our prayer.

**You inspire awe, God, our savior,  
hope of distant lands and waters.**

Clothed in power, you steady the mountains;

You still the roaring seas, restless waves, raging nations.

**People everywhere stand amazed at what you do,  
east and west shout for joy.**

You tend and water the land.

**How wonderful the harvest!**

You fill your springs, ready the seeds, prepare the grain.

**You soak the furrows and level the ridges.**

With softening rain you bless the land with growth.

**You crown the year with riches.**

All you touch comes alive: untilled lands yield crops,  
hills are dressed in joy,

**Flocks clothe the pastures, valleys wrap themselves  
in grain. They all shout for joy and break into song.**

## SCRIPTURE

### READING

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

*God provides every blessing in abundance*

*Christian fellowship involves sharing with those in need. Here Paul is gathering a collection for the church in Jerusalem from all the Gentile churches he helped found. We can be extravagant in our giving because God is extravagant, not stingy, in providing for our lives.*

A reading from Second Corinthians.

*Paul writes:* The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. <sup>7</sup>Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup>And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. <sup>9</sup>As it is written,

*"He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor;  
his righteousness endures forever."*

<sup>10</sup>He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. <sup>11</sup>You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; <sup>12</sup>for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. <sup>13</sup>Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, <sup>14</sup>while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. <sup>15</sup>Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## TABLE GRACES

The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, and you give them their food in due season. You open wide your hand and satisfy the needs of every living creature. Bless this food to our bodies and our bodies to your service. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Be present at our table Lord.  
Be here and everywhere adored.  
These mercies bless and grant that we...  
...may feast in paradise with thee.  
...may strengthened for thy service be.  
Amen.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, † Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Lord, we thank you for the food before us,  
the friends beside us,  
the love between us,  
and your presence among us.  
In Jesus' name. Amen.

Bless us, O Lord,  
and these thy gifts,  
which we are about to receive  
from thy bounty,  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*MELODY: EDELWEISS (from Tibbens)*  
Bless our friends, Bless our food,  
Come, O Lord, and sit with us.  
May our words glow with peace.  
Bring your love to surround us.

Friendship and peace:  
May they bloom and grow,  
Bloom and grow forever.  
Bless our friends, bless our food.  
Bless our family forever.

## RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Clinging to the promise of abundant life and resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

*a brief silence*

Giver and sustainer of life, your church sings your praise, our hearts full with thanksgiving for your saving deeds. Make us ever thankful, gracious, and generous. Lord, in your mercy;

**Hear our prayer;**

Generous God, you brought us into a good land. Make us faithful stewards of the marvelous gifts of your creation. We praise you for your bounty showered upon us. Lord, in your mercy;

**Hear our prayer;**

Pilgrim God, you journey with every nation and people. Guide us into ways of peace and justice, that all would have reason to give you thanks and praise. Lord, in your mercy;

**Hear our prayer;**

Gracious Lord, you deliver us from every need and every peril by your mighty hand. Reach out and raise up those who suffer in any way (*especially*), that they would sing your praises. Lord, in your mercy;

**Hear our prayer;**

God of all mercies, on this day of Thanksgiving we are overwhelmed by your generosity. Strengthen and encourage us that others would come to know you through our sharing of your abundance. Lord, in your mercy;

**Hear our prayer;**

Loving Savior, the generations rise and fall before you. We praise you for the gift of our forebears  
(*especially names of importance to the group or person*)

As you gather every generation to your breast, strengthen those who grieve with your promise of abundant life. Lord, in your mercy;

**Hear our prayer;**

Receive these our prayers, O God, and give us all we need for this day and the days to come, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

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