

The background of the image is a rustic, autumn-themed scene. It features a dark wooden wall with vertical planks. Two warm, glowing string lights hang from the top. In the foreground, there are several pumpkins of various sizes and colors (orange, red, and green), along with lit candles and a lantern. The overall atmosphere is cozy and warm.

Give Thanks

to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

1 CHRONICLES 16:34



Growing in Faith and Sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with all People

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today, whether in person or online. What a blessing to gather as God's people around his Word and Sacraments. In these gifts, God promises that his Holy Spirit is at work to bless us.

- ✘ **A virtual "Worship Card"** is available at www.RiverviewLutheran.org/onlineworship. We ask all who have joined us today, whether online or in person, to complete a card to leave a record of your worshipping with us today.
- ✘ **Precautions: Thank you for taking these steps out of love for those worshipping with you today.**
 - ✘ Please maintain social distancing (minimum of 6 feet) from those not in your household. A six-foot section at the center of each pew is marked with tape.
 - ✘ Avoid shaking hands or hugging.
 - ✘ Be sure to cover any and all coughs and sneezes.
 - ✘ Following worship, please keep visiting indoors to a minimum. Visiting can be done more safely outside.
 - ✘ Take your printed service folder home, since it will not be reused for other services.
- ✘ **The Offering** is an opportunity for us to thank the Lord for all his blessings to us by giving a portion of our income in support of his gospel ministry. If you are a guest today, you may participate in the offering. But please don't feel obligated. Those interested in giving an offering may do so in several ways:
 - ✘ Mail a check to Riverview (136 W Seymour St, Appleton, WI 54915)
 - ✘ Use the QR Code on the right or click on the giving link on our website to give a gift electronically (one-time or recurring).
 - ✘ Set up Bill Pay with your bank to have your gift mailed to Riverview.
 - ✘ In-person worshippers may leave their offering in one of the plates at the door.
- ✘ **Prayer before Worship:** Lord of all, we thank you for the wealth of spiritual and material goods You shower upon us. Although we have had to walk through the dark valley of the pandemic in 2020, our cup of blessing overflows. Lead us to give You thanks for the very important things we continue to enjoy: your Word, and the gospel message, your forgiveness, and the promise of life everlasting. May this bountiful harvest sustain us now and always. Amen.





Order of Service for November 25-26, 2020
THANKSGIVING

✚ **GATHERING** ✚

Please stand.

INVOCATION

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son ✚ and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: **Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

M Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation!

C **Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving!**
Let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

M Let all the earth sing praise to God!

C **Let the sound of his praise be heard in all the world!**

M Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.

C **Let the floods clap their hands;**
let the hills sing together in the presence of the Lord.

M Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous,
and give thanks to his holy name!

C **My soul shall rejoice in the Lord, exulting in his deliverance.**

M Let all who take refuge in God rejoice;
let them ever sing for joy.

C **My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,**
and my mouth praises God with joyful lips.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- M** Forgive us, Lord, that we forget thankfulness in other seasons of the year.
- C** Forgive us for valuing material gifts greater than spiritual riches.
- M** Replace our covetousness with contentment.
- C** Increase our appreciation for all You graciously have given us. Amen.
- M** The Lord is gracious and never withholds forgiveness. May He grant you peace and the gift of contentment.
- C** Amen.

✝ THE WORD ✝

FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

¹ When you have entered the land the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it, ² take some of the firstfruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land the LORD your God is giving you and put them in a basket. Then go to the place the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name ³ and say to the priest in office at the time, “I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come to the land the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.” ⁴ The priest shall take the basket from your hands and set it down in front of the altar of the LORD your God. ⁵ Then you shall declare before the LORD your God: “My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous. ⁶ But the Egyptians mistreated us and made us suffer, subjecting us to harsh labor. ⁷ Then we cried out to the LORD, the God of our ancestors, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our misery, toil and oppression. ⁸ So the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with signs and wonders. ⁹ He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey; ¹⁰ and now I bring the firstfruits of the soil that you, LORD, have given me.” Place the basket before the LORD your God and bow down before him. ¹¹ Then you and the Levites and the foreigners residing among you shall rejoice in all the good things the LORD your God has given to you and your household.

- M** The Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. ¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. ¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ¹³ Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. ¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. ²⁰ On the contrary:

"If your enemy is hungry, feed him;
if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.

In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."

²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

M O give thanks to the Lord for he is good;

C His mercy endures forever.

Please stand.

GOSPEL

Luke 10:22-24

M The Gospel according to Luke, chapter 10.

C Glory be to you, O Lord!

²² "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows who the Son is except the Father, and no one knows who the Father is except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

²³ Then he turned to his disciples and said privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. ²⁴ For I tell you that many prophets and kings wanted to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it."

M This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to you, O Christ!

CONFESSION OF FAITH *Explanation of the 1st Article of the Apostles' Creed
from Martin Luther's Small Catechism¹*

AI I believe that God created me and all that exists,
and that he gave me my body and soul,
eyes, ears and all my members,
my mind and all my abilities.

**And I believe that God still preserves me
by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink,
property and home, spouse and children, land, cattle and all I own,
and all I need to keep my body and life.**

**God also preserves me by defending me against all danger,
guarding and protecting me from all evil.**

**All this God does only because he is my good and merciful Father in heaven,
and not because I have earned or deserved it.**

For all this I ought to thank and praise, to serve and obey him.

This is most certainly true.

Please be seated.

¹ Martin Luther wrote the Small Catechism in 1529 A.D. as a brief summary of the basic truths of the Christian faith. It was primarily intended to educate the laity and was designed as a tool that parents could use to teach their children. It provides summaries or explanations of the Ten Commandments, the Apostles Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the Sacrament of Baptism, the Sacrament of the Altar (Holy Communion), and the Ministry of the Keys and Confession.

HYMN OF THE DAY

*We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer*²

Christian Worship 609



1 We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor!
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fath - ers; we bless you.
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer;



In grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring:
Through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been;
To you, great Je - ho - vah, glad an - thems we raise.



We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;
When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,
Your strong arm will guide us; our God is be - side us.



We bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
And with your help, O Lord, our bat - tles we win.
To you, our great Re - deem - er, for - e'er be praise!

² *We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer* was written for the Thanksgiving service at the Brick Presbyterian Church of New York City in 1902 by Julia B. Cory. A month later, at the request of her father, she added a Christmas stanza:

Your love you did show us, your only Son sending,
Who came as a baby and whose bed was a stall,
His blest life he gave us and then died to save us;
We praise you, O Lord, for your gift to us all.

Please stand.

✝ PRAYERS AND PRAISE ✝

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH³

- M** Lord of heaven and earth, you made all things beautiful. You have provided green forests and refreshing streams. You have arranged the orderly procession of day and night for our work and rest.
- C** **Thank you for the mountains and the prairies, the roaring sea, and the gentle breeze.**
- M** Thank you for roofs that shelter us, for clothing that protects us, and for food and drink. Thank you for our work, for projects that are done well, and for the approval of supervisors and teachers. Thank you for all who serve at night to make our days more pleasant.
- C** **Thank you for associates at work, for their encouragement and praise, and for the joys of human friendships.**
- M** Thank you for our cities and our countrysides, for farms and factories, for streets and highways, and for all of life that flows so swiftly before us.
- C** **Thank you for children at play, their boundless energy, and their shouts of joy and laughter.**
- M** Thank you for the morning greetings we receive, and for all the smiles that come from faces loved by you.
- C** **Thank you for Christian parents, for their affection and their care.**
- M** Hear us, Lord, as we give thanks for personal blessings.

Silent prayer.

³ The Prayer of the Church, perhaps more than any other part of the service, shows the special role of all Christians in the priesthood of all believers (1 Peter 2:5,9), who lift their hearts and their prayers as an offering to their God.

M Thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, for his coming to us in Word and sacraments, for his giving and forgiving, and for listening to our prayers. Receive our gifts and offerings as our sacrifice of praise.

C Lead us in thankful living today and always. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

All 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;⁴
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.

BENEDICTION

M The grace of our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

⁴ "God surely gives daily bread without our asking, even to all the wicked, but we pray in this petition that he would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving." (*Luther's Small Catechism: The Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer*).

CLOSING HYMN

Let All Things Now Living⁵

Christian Worship 260



1 Let all things now liv - ing A song of thanks-giv - ing
2 His law he en - forc - es; The stars in their cours - es



To God the Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
And sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine.



Who fash - ioned and made us, Pro - tect - ed and stayed us,
The hills and the moun - tains, The riv - ers and foun - tains,



Who still guides us on to the end of our days.
The deeps of the o - cean pro - claim him di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us; His light goes be - fore us,
We, too, should be voic - ing Our love and re - joic - ing.



A pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
With glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise

⁵ **Let All Things Now Living:** Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1872-1980, © 1939, renewed 1966 by E.C. Schirmer Music Co. Tune: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune.

Till shadows have vanished And darkness is banished,
 Till all things now living Unite in thanksgiving:
 As forward we travel from light into light,
 "To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVING TODAY

Preacher.....Pastor Dennis Belter
 Presiding Minister.....Pastor Timothy Wagner
 Organist Mr. Rob Romberg

Acknowledgments

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