THANKSGIVING EVE/DAY
NOVEMBER 25/26, 2026 | 7:00 PM/9:30 AM
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH; CONCORDIA, MO

ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP

The table is set. The guests are invited. All is ready. This might describe your Thanksgiving get-together, but today we are thinking about Holy Communion. This sacrament is sometimes called the Eucharist, a Greek word that means to give thanks. As we remember our Lord's sacrifice and receive His gifts in the Lord's Supper, we give thanks that we have a place in heaven's eternal feast.

℗ Pastor ℂ **Congregation/All**
✢ All may make the sign of the cross to remember their baptism.

✝

Led by the Holy Spirit, we gather for worship.
We are prepared for worship through Confession and Absolution.

PRELUDE, WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN 892 *"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"*

CONFESSION OF SINS & FORGIVENESS *1 John 1:8–9; Psalm 136:1*

℗ In the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
ℂ **Amen.**
℗ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
ℂ **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
℗ Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
ℂ **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
℗ Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
ℂ **Amen.**
℗ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
ℂ **for his steadfast love endures forever.**

INTROIT | Entrance *Psalm 104:24, 27–28, 30; antiphon: v. 33*

P I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
C I will sing praise to my God while I have being.
P O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all;
C the earth is full of your creatures.
P These all look to you,
C to give them their food in due season.
P When you give it to them, they gather it up;
C when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.
P When you send forth your Spirit, they are created,
C and you renew the face of the ground.
C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
P I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
C I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

HYMN OF PRAISE *"This Is the Feast"*
Revelation 5:12–13; 19:5–9; for text and tune, see page 155.
Refrain: (sing) **This is the feast of victory for our God.**
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

C Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain*

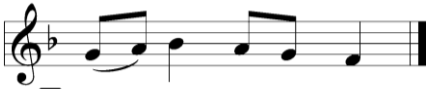
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
And honor, blessing and glory are His. *Refrain*

Sing with all the people of God,
And join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might
Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. *Refrain*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.
Alleluia. *Refrain*

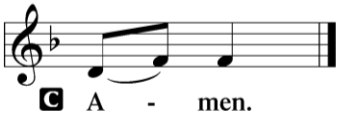
SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



P Almighty God, Your mercies are new every morning and You graciously provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in

willing obedience all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



✝

We hear God's Word read and proclaimed,
and we respond with our prayers and praise, tithes and offerings.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Deuteronomy 8:1–10*
Trusting God's generous provision, His people are to keep the commandments of the Lord, walking in His ways.

"The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. [2]And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. [3]And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. [4]Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. [5]Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. [6]So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. [7]For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, [8]a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, [9]a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. [10]And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you."

P This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**



EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 11:23–25*
St. Paul relates how Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper.

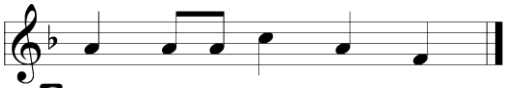
23For I received from the Lord what
I also delivered to you, that the Lord
Jesus on the night when he was be-
trayed took bread, 24and when he had
given thanks, he broke it, and said,
"This is my body, which is for you.
Do this in remembrance of me." 25In the
same way also he took the cup, after
supper, saying, "This cup is the new
covenant in my blood. Do this, as often
as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA AND VERSE *John 6:68; for text and tune, see page 156.*
C (sung) **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 6:35–51*
Jesus explains He truly is the "living bread that comes down from heaven." This is an even greater gift than the manna God provided ancient Israel in the wilderness because whoever eats the living bread will live forever.

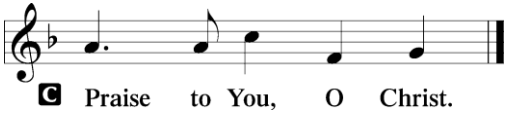
P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.



35Jesus said to them, "I am the bread
of life; whoever comes to me shall not
hunger, and whoever believes in me
shall never thirst. 36But I said to you
that you have seen me and yet do not
believe. 37All that the Father gives me
will come to me, and whoever comes to
me I will never cast out. 38For I have
come down from heaven, not to do my
own will but the will of him who sent
me. 39And this is the will of him who
sent me, that I should lose nothing of all
that he has given me, but raise it up on
the last day. 40For this is the will of my
Father, that everyone who looks on the
Son and believes in him should have
eternal life, and I will raise him up on
the last day."
41So the Jews grumbled about him, be-
cause he said, "I am the bread that came
down from heaven." 42They said, "Is
not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose
father and mother we know? How does
he now say, 'I have come down from
heaven'?" 43Jesus answered them, "Do
not grumble among yourselves. 44No
one can come to me unless the Father
who sent me draws him. And I will
raise him up on the last day. 45It is writ-
ten in the Prophets, 'And they will all
be taught by God.' Everyone who has
heard and learned from the Father
comes to me— 46not that anyone has
seen the Father except he who is from
God; he has seen the Father. 47Truly,
truly, I say to you, whoever believes has

eternal life. [48]I am the bread of life.
[49]Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. [50]This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.
[51]I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON HYMN 895 *"Now Thank We All Our God"*

SERMON *"Eucharist"*

NICENE CREED *See the inside back cover of the hymnal.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH
*with "Praise to God, Immortal Praise" (*The Lutheran Hymnal *572)*

P Almighty God, all good gifts come from You. We give You thanks and praise for Your generous goodness, supplying our needs of body and soul.

C (sung) **Praise to God, immortal praise,**
For the love that crowns our days;
Bounteous Source of every joy,
Let Thy praise our tongues employ,
All to Thee, our God, we owe,
Source whence all our blessings flow.

P For the earthly gifts which sustain us each day—the blessings of food, clothing, shelter, and the people who share them with us. When we have much or little, may we be content, knowing we are ever in Your care. Provide for those in need that they may not lose heart but know Your mercy and love.

C (sung) **All the plenty summer pours;**
Autumn's rich, o'erflowing stores;
Flocks that whiten all the plain;
Yellow sheaves of ripened grain, —
Lord, for these our souls shall raise
Grateful vows and solemn praise. ▶

P We are especially grateful for the spiritual blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in word, water, bread and wine, and the community of Your Church. Lead us to treasure these things above all else and find true and lasting contentment and joy in them.

C (sung) **Peace, prosperity, and health,**
Private bliss, and public wealth,
Knowledge with its gladdening streams,
True religion's holier beams,
Lord, for these our souls shall raise
Grateful vows and solemn praise.

P May our thanksgiving be more than prayers and praise; move us to action. Make us loving and generous, delighting in serving You, the one whose generosity fills our life today and for eternity; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

C (sung) **As Thy prospering hand hath blest,**
May we give Thee all our best
And by deeds of kindly love
For Thy mercies grateful prove,
Singing thus through all our days
Praise to God, immortal praise.

GATHERING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

All may sign the friendship register found in each pew.

✝

We receive God's gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation
as we share the Sacrament of the Altar.

The service continues with the Preface on page 160 in the hymnal.

We believe that in the Lord's Supper our Lord gives to us His true body and blood with the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of our sins. We recognize the charge that St. Paul offers in 1 Corinthians 11:27–28 that those who come to receive the Lord's Supper ought to examine themselves so that they do not eat and drink in an unworthy manner. Therefore, out of concern for those who have not been instructed in the faith or who hold to a different confession, we ask that only members of Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregations receive the Sacrament. If you would like to learn more about what our congregation teaches, to inquire about becoming a member or have questions about our practice, please speak to one of the pastors. Adults and children who have not yet

been baptized or instructed in the Christian faith are invited to come forward and receive a spoken blessing at the altar rail; please indicate this by crossing your arms across your chest.

For those who require it, diluted wine is found in the purple glasses in the center of the tray of individual cups; gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Music during distribution:
HYMN 803 *"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" (You may remain seated for v. 3.)*
HYMN 894 *"For the Fruits of His Creation"*
HYMN 785 *"We Praise You, O God"*

✝

Even as this time of worship ends, we go out of the church into the worship of our everyday lives, ready to be God's witnesses and do His will.

The service concludes with the Post-Communion Canticle ("Thank the Lord"), Post-Communion Collect, and Benediction on pages 164–166.

CLOSING HYMN 893 *"Sing to the Lord of Harvest"*

SENDING & POSTLUDE
P Go in peace; serve the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God!**

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SERVING IN THIS SERVICE

Rev. Andrew Lehenbauer, *Liturgist*
Rev. Michael Pottschmidt, *Preacher*
Kathryn Oetting, *Organist*
Quinn Marsh, Olivia Harrington, *Acolytes (7:00 pm)*
Elaina Martens, Lillie Todd, *Acolytes (9:30 am)*
John Beerman, Jeff Bingham, Chris Gerdts, Andy Jones, *Elders on Duty*



Holidays Are Holy Days

Find a full list of upcoming Advent and Christmas worship opportunities and special events at stpaulsconcordia.org/advent-christmas or scan the QR code below.

"Making a Christ-centered difference in our community and world today and for eternity."

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