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# ***WELCOME TO FIRST LUTHERAN***

*Today's readings reflect two of the strains that go into the celebration of a national day of thanksgiving: gratitude for abundant harvest (Joel) and civic prayer for a peaceable common life (1 Timothy). The core meaning of Thanksgiving for many of us—a home feast for extended family and friends—is not reflected in the readings; but it is reflected weekly in the church's meal of thanksgiving (eucharist). What we wish for both these thanksgiving meals is that they will go deeper than celebration of one another and our own blessings, to recognize in our true Host one who wants everyone brought to the table.*

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***First Lutheran  
Church  
Tiffin, Ohio***

***Thanksgiving Sunday***

***November 24, 2024***

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## ***PRELUDE***

*Kremser*

*Wayne Wold*

*A November to Remember*

*VI. We Praise You, O God*

*Please stand.*

## ***CALL TO WORSHIP***

P: God stretches out the heavens and shapes the earth.

**C: Come and give thanks!**

P: God raises up the mountains and pours water into the seas.

**C: Come and give thanks!**

P: God calls forth plants from the soil and forms animals in infinite variety.

**C: Come and give thanks!**

P: God breathes upon us and fills us with life.

**C: Come lift your voices in praise!**

P: God gives our lives meaning through laughter and tears.

**C: Come lift your voices in praise!**

P: God touches our hearts through family and friends.

**C: Come lift your voices in praise!**

P: God loves us and blesses us with everything good.

**C: Come and worship!**

P: God loves us and overwhelms us with never-ending generosity.

**C: Come and worship!**

P: God loves us and surrounds us with love in abundance!

**C: Come and worship!**

# GATHERING HYMN

# 870

## WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD



1 We praise you, O God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor;  
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and mo - thers;  
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.  
and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing 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,  
With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.



we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.  
and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.  
To you, our great re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882–1963

Music: KREMSER, A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626

## ***GREETING***

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

**C:** **And also with you!**

## ***A THANKSGIVING LITANY***

**L:** Sing to the Lord, all the earth!

Share the news of his saving work every single day!

**C: Declare God's glory among the nations;  
his wondrous works among all people.**

**L:** For great is the Lord, and worthy of praise!

He is to be revered above all other gods.

**C: For the gods of the nations are merely idols,  
but it is God who created the heavens!**

**L:** Greatness and grandeur surround him,  
strength and beauty are in his dwelling.

**C: O nations of the world, recognize the Lord!  
Recognize that the Lord is glorious and strong.**

**L:** Give to God the glory he deserves!

Bring your offering and come to worship him.

**C: Bow down to the Lord in his holy splendor!  
Tremble before him, all the earth!**

**L:** Let the heavens be glad! Let the earth rejoice!

Let the nations say, "The Lord rules!"

**C: Let the sea and everything in it roar!  
Let the fields and their crops burst forth in joy!**

**L:** Let the trees of the forest rustle with praise before the Lord!

**C: For he is coming to establish justice on earth!**

**L:** Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

**C: his faithful love endures forever.**

## ***THE PRAYER OF THE DAY***

P: 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.

C: Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## ***CANTICLE OF PRAISE***



# ***A READING FROM JOEL***

***2:21-27***

R: A reading from Joel the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter

*<sup>21</sup> Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has done great things! <sup>22</sup> Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield. <sup>23</sup> O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the LORD your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. <sup>24</sup> The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. <sup>25</sup> I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. <sup>26</sup> You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. <sup>27</sup> You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame*

R: The Word of the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

# ***A READING FROM 1 TIMOTHY***

***2:1-7***

R: A reading from Timothy the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter

*<sup>1</sup>First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup>This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, <sup>6</sup>who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. <sup>7</sup>For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.*

R: The Word of the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

*Please stand for the reading of the Gospel*

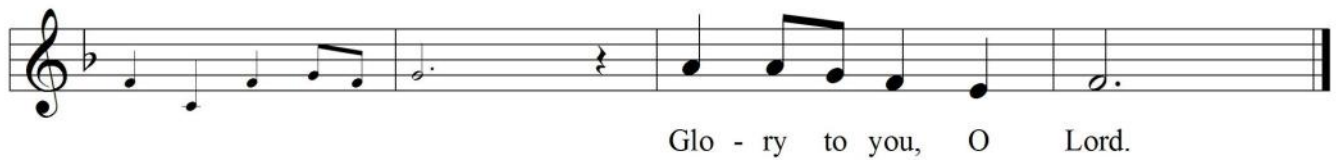
## ***THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***



# THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

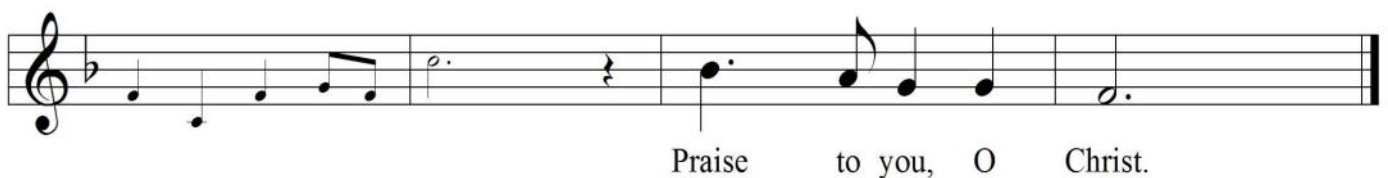
## 6:25-33

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter



**Jesus said,**<sup>25</sup>"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? <sup>26</sup>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? <sup>27</sup>And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? <sup>28</sup>And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup>yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. <sup>30</sup>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? <sup>31</sup>Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' <sup>32</sup>For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. <sup>33</sup>But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord!





*Please be seated.*

## ***TODAY'S REFLECTION***    *Rev. Chris Dittmar*



*Please stand for the Hymn of the Day.*

### ***HYMN OF THE DAY***                      **# 680**

#### ***We Plow the Fields and Scatter***



1. We plow the fields and scat-ter the good seed on the land,  
2. You on - ly are the mak-er of all things near and far,  
3. We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,



but it is fed and wa-tered by God's al - might - y hand,  
You paint the way - side flow - er, you light the eve - ning star.  
the seed-time and the har-vest, our life, our health, our food.



who sends the snow in win-ter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
The winds and waves o - bey you, by you the birds are fed;  
No gifts have we to of - fer for all your love im - parts



the breez - es and the sun-shine, and soft re - fresh-ing rain.  
much more to us, your chil-dren, you give our dai - ly bread.  
but what you most would trea - sure our hum-ble, thank-ful hearts.

# ***THE CREED***

**L:** Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith as expressed in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**C:** **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

# ***THE CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS***

P: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another:

*A time of silence and reflection*

P: Gracious God,

**C: Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in the newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

P: May Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins, through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**C: Amen.**

## ***THE PEACE***

L: Sisters and brothers, rejoice! Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace! May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*You are welcome to share the Peace of Christ with those around you as you feel comfortable.*

# ***A KIND REMINDER***

*As we prepare to take our offering, please fill out the blue Fellowship Card located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Also, please mark on this card any prayer request you may have.*

## ***OFFERING & ORGAN MEDITATION***

**BLESSINGS**

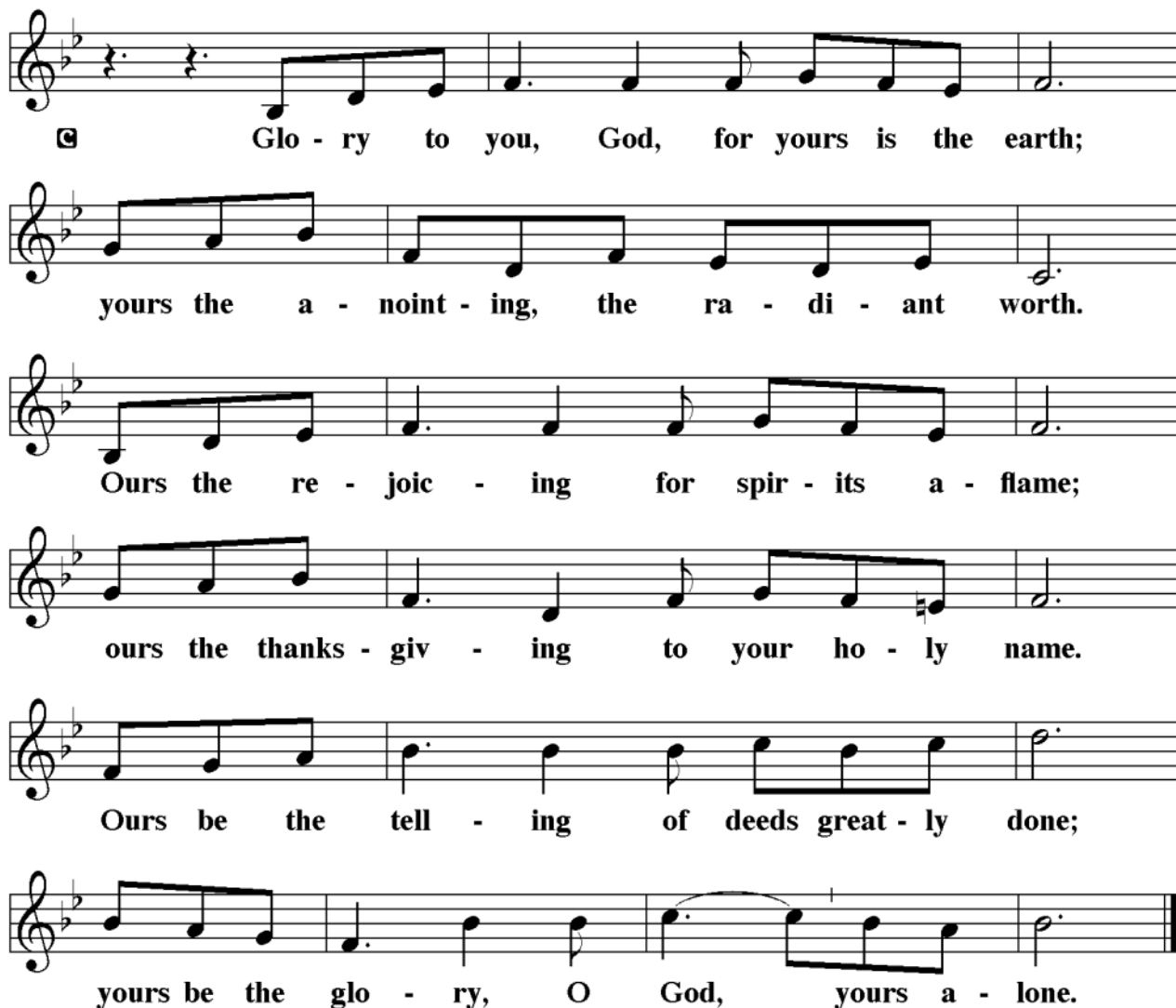
*Dan Miller*

*Three Gospel Favorites*

*II. Count Your Blessings*

*Please stand.*

## ***OFFERTORY SONG***



Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

# ***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE***

*Together we respond.*

**P:** Merciful God

**C:** Receive our prayer.

## ***LORD'S PRAYER***

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

**C:** 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.

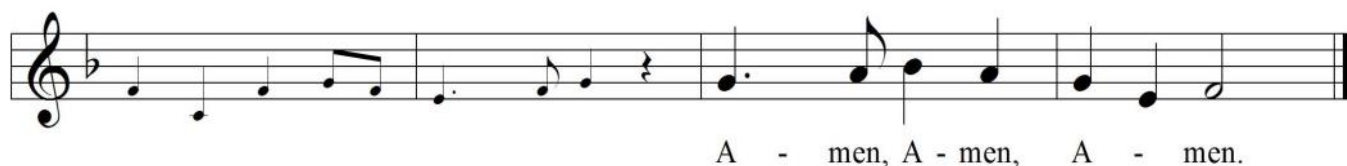
## ***CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER***

**C:** Oh God, your everlasting love for us is always trustworthy and sure. We are grateful for the goodness you have shown us through the years, and we ask now for confidence to go forward into the future. Bless our community of faith, bless our healing, bless the changes that are before us, bless our call process and the pastoral leaders who will shepherd us through this time of transition. We thank you now for the wisdom you will show us as we align with your will, and servant or servants you are already preparing to send us in your blessed time. Help us to keep looking to you to define our ministry and our future. In his name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen

*Please be seated.*

## **BLESSING**

P: The Ancient One, enthroned, the Crucified One, now risen,  
the Indwelling One, poured out, bless you now and forever.



*Please Stand.*

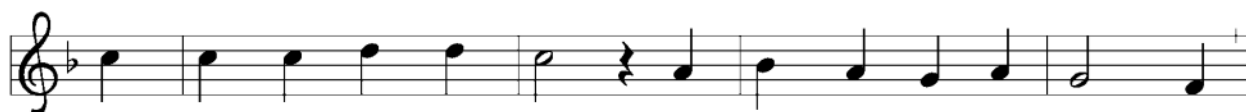
## **SENDING SONG**

**# 840**

### **NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD**



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,  
2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,



who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;  
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,  
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,



who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way  
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;



with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.  
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

## ***THE SENDING***

P: God in peace! God is at work in you!

L: Encourage one another in Christ

C: Thanks be to God!

## ***POSTLUDE***

*Nun Danket Alle Gott*

*Sigfrid Karg-Elert*

*Choral Improvisation on Now Thank We All Opus 65, No. 59*

## *Toledo Symphony Orchestra*



**TOLEDO  
SYMPHONY**

## *Toledo Symphony Orchestra*

*Returns to*

*First Lutheran Church*

*December 19th, 2024*

*At 7pm*

*Contact Office for Tickets*

*(419) 447-1323*

## *This Week's Calendar*

### **Sunday**

Nov. 24

10:00 am Worship on  
"Thanksgiving Sunday"  
11:15 am Bountiful Feast

### **Wednesday**

Nov. 27

7:00 pm Community Thanksgiving  
Worship @ First  
Christian Church

### **Thursday**

Nov. 28

Office Closed for the  
Thanksgiving Holiday

12-2 pm Community Dinner @  
Church of the Nazarene

### **Friday**

Nov. 29

Office Closed for the  
Thanksgiving Holiday

### **Next Sunday**

Dec 1

10:00 am Worship  
4:00 pm Tuba Christmas

## *Our Worship Leaders*

*Altar Guild:* Ron & Sandy Mellott

*Cantor:* Elijah Shiley

*Facebook Camera:* Shelley Ross

*Host:*

*Reader:* Linda Ellinger

*Slide Show Operator:*

*Worship Assistant:* Linda Ellinger

*Director of Music:* Curtis L. King

*Pastor:* Pastor Chris Dittmar

## *Piece Corp Meeting*

*The Piece Corp  
will be meeting*

***Dec. 11th at  
9:00 am***

*To discuss with  
Jim Ruess  
the quilting future.*



## *Community Thanksgiving Service*



Everyone is invited to a Community  
Thanksgiving Eve Service this coming  
Wednesday, November 27  
Worship begins at 7:00 p.m.  
At First Christian Church  
Corner of CR 19 and 224

Free Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner  
Noon—2pm Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>  
Tiffin Church of the Nazarene  
777 E. Township Road 201 Tiffin  
(Next to Sentinel)  
Please call for reservations 419 447-0363



## *Contact Us*

### **First Lutheran Church**

300 Melmore Street  
Tiffin, Ohio 44883

419-447-1323

[www.firstlutherantiffin.com](http://www.firstlutherantiffin.com)  
[firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com](mailto:firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com)

**Pre-School Dir.** Jane Frederick  
[daycarejane@gmail.com](mailto:daycarejane@gmail.com)

## *With Thanksgiving*

This Sunday, November 24th, we will gather for our annual Bountiful Feast.

Lunch will include a Turkey Dinner with all the sides. We simply ask that you bring a dessert to share.



## *Emergency Contacts*



**November 24<sup>th</sup> - November 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Pastor Doug Devos**  
**First Christian**

**(419) 271-6770**  
**(419) 939-3503 wife (Linda)**  
**E-mail: [ddevos@buckeye-express.com](mailto:ddevos@buckeye-express.com)**

**Pastor Robin Kapostasy**  
**Hope Lutheran—Fostoria**  
**(419) 889-4895**  
**[robinkapo19@gmail.com](mailto:robinkapo19@gmail.com)**

## *Our Mission Statement*

**“God is among us!”**  
**“We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel, forgive, reconcile and trust God for all that we need.”**