

The National Feast of Thanksgiving to God



Hymn:

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing

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, were at our side, all glory be Thine!

We all do extol Thee, Thou Leader triumphant,
And pray that Thou still our Defender will be.
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation;
Thy Name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

The Introit: Cibavit eos, Psalm 81:16

TONE VII



Antiphon:

He fed them with the finest wheat *

and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

Sing to the Lord with all your heart always and for everything, *

giving thanks in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ,
to God the Father.

Psalm. Sing with joy to God our strength; *

and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.

Gloria. Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, ↓

and to the Holy Spirit, *

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever,

for all ages of ages . Amen

Antiphon:

The Kyrie

The Gloria is not sung.

The Collect:

Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages. *Amen.*

The Old Testament: Deuteronomy 8:[6-9]10-20

[Therefore keep the commandments of the LORD your God, by walking in his ways and by fearing him. For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you.] You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you. Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth." But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today. If you do forget the LORD your God and follow other gods to serve and worship them, I solemnly warn you today that you shall surely perish. Like the nations that the LORD is destroying before you, so

shall you perish, because you would not obey the voice of the LORD your God.

The Gradual *Oculi omnium, Psalm 145:16,17*

TONE III



The antiphon is chanted first by a cantor and then repeated by the congregation where indicated in the text. The Psalm verses alone may be sung omitting the antiphon.

Ant: 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.

V. You visit the earth and water it abundantly; ↓
you make it very plenteous; *
the river of God is full of water.

V. You prepare the grain, *
for so you provide for the earth. **Antiphon**

V. You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground
and bless its increase.

V. You crown the year with your goodness, *
and your paths overflow with plenty. **Antiphon**

V. May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, *
and the hills be clothed with joy.

V. May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, ↓
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *
let them shout for joy and sing. **Antiphon**

The Epistle: James 1:17-18, 21-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act--they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Alleluia **Confitemini : quoniam, Psalm 147** PSALM TONE LAUDATE



V. How good it is to sing praises to our God, *
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

The Gospel: Matthew 6:25-33

Jesus said, "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 Nicene Creed is omitted.

The Litany of Thanksgiving

This is used in place of the Prayers of the People.

Priest: Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us. **(A short silence is kept)**

Deacon: For the beauty and wonder of your creation,
in earth and sky and sea,

People:

The image shows a musical score for two voices: Soprano and Tenor. The Soprano part is written on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Tenor part is written on a bass clef staff. Both parts have the lyrics "We Thank You, O Lord" written below the notes. The Soprano part has a melodic line with a slur over the first two notes and another slur over the last two notes. The Tenor part has a more rhythmic line with a slur over the first two notes and another slur over the last two notes.

Deacon: For all that is gracious in the lives of Christian men and
women, revealing the image of Christ,

People: We thank you, O Lord.

Deacon: For our daily food and drink, our homes and families,
and our friends,

People: We thank you, O Lord.

Deacon: For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

People: We thank you, O Lord.

Deacon: For health and strength to work,
and leisure to rest and play,

People: We thank you, O Lord.

Deacon: For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering
and faithful in adversity,

People: We thank you, O Lord.

Deacon: For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

People: We thank you, O Lord.

Deacon: For the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, our Patron Saint **N.** and the whole communion of saints, in all times and places,

People: We thank you, O Lord.

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

People: We thank you, O Lord.

Priest: To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, for all ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Offertory

Præcinte, Psalm 147

STONE III



Sing to the Lord with thanks-giv-ing; *
make music to our God upon the harp.

Offertory Hymn:

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest-home:
all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest-home.

All the world is God's own field, fruit unto his praise to yield;
wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown:
first the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear:
grant, O harvest Lord, that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take his harvest home;
from his field shall in that day all offenses purge away;
give his angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store in his garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest-home;
gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin;
there, for ever purified, in thy presence to abide;
come, with all thine angels come, raise the glorious harvest-home.

The Prayer over the gifts:

Lord, make holy the gifts we offer with gratitude from the produce
of the earth. As you have made our land bear a rich harvest, make
our hearts fruitful with your life and love; through Jesus Christ
your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, God, for all ages of ages. *Amen*

The Preface of Thanksgiving:

It is truly right and just, our joy and helpful to salvation,
that we, always and everywhere, give thanks to you,
O Lord, holy Father, Almighty and eternal God:

You made man in your own image and likeness and set him over
all creation.

You once chose a people and gave them a destiny and, when you
brought them out of bondage to freedom they carried with them
the promise, that all people would be blessed and all men could be
free.

What the prophets pledged was fulfilled in Jesus Christ, your Son,
our saving Lord.

It continues to come to pass in every generation for all men who have believed that Jesus, by his death and resurrection gave them a new freedom in his Spirit.

And in these latter days it has happened to our forefathers, who, as if out of the desert, came to this land, a place of abundance, promise, and hope.

And so on this day, we give thanks to you in a special way for all that we have, all that we are, and all that we hope to be, as a people thankful for your promise.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Communion: **Quid retribuam.**

TONE I



God has established peace on your borders, *
and satisfies you with the flour of wheat.

How shall I repay the Lord *
for all the good things he has done for me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation, *
and call upon the Name of the Lord.

The Postcommunion Collect:

Father, we pray, sow the seed of your Word in our hearts, and send down upon us the showers of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, and at the great day of harvest may be gathered by the holy angels into the heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages. *Amen.*

The Blessing:

May the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Hymns:

Now thank we all our God

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands, and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us!
With ever-joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reigns in highest heaven,
eternal, Triune God, whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be, evermore.

As those of old their first fruits brought

As those of old their first fruits brought of vineyard, flock, and field
To God the giver of all good, the source of bounteous yield;
So we today our first fruits bring, the wealth of this good land,
Of farm and market, shop and home, of mind, and heart, and hand.

A world in need now summons us to labor, love, and give;
To make our life an offering to God that all may live;
The Word of God is calling us to make the dream come true:
A world redeemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.

With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to you
To serve your cause and share your love in all we say and do.
O God who gives us yourself in Jesus Christ your Son,
Help us to give ourselves each day until Christ's work is done.

To God the Father, Source of life, let now all praise be given.
To God the Son, who made all things, be praise in highest heaven
To God the Holy Spirit, Giver of life, and Lord.
The Consubstantial Triune God, be evermore adored!