

A Prayer Service for Thanksgiving



*November 26, 2020
10:30 AM*

YouTube Channel

St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church

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A PRAYER SERVICE FOR THANKSGIVING

Our service begins on page 103 of the Book of Common Prayer.

Officiant: Give thanks to the Lord, and call upon the Divine Name;
make known God's deeds among the peoples. (*Psalm 105:1*)

Opening Hymn 433

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing

KREMSER

1 We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;
2 Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,
3 We all do ex - tol thee, thou lead - er tri - um - phant,

he chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known;
or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing his king - dom di - vine;
and pray that thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.

the wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing:
so from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning:
Let thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion:

sing prais - es to his Name; he for - gets not his own.
thou, Lord, wast at our side: all glo - ry be thine!
thy Name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

SELECTION FROM THE PSALTER

Officiant: O God, make speed to save us.

People: **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

All: **Glory 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. Alleluia.**

PSALM 65

BCP 673

- 1 You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; * to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.
- 2 To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, * because of their transgressions.
- 3 Our sins are stronger than we are, * but you will blot them out.
- 4 Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there! *
they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.
- 5 Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, *
O Hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far away.
- 6 You make fast the mountains by your power; * they are girded about with might.
- 7 You still the roaring of the seas, * the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.
- 8 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; *
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.
- 9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; *
the river of God is full of water.
- 10 You prepare the grain, * for so you provide for the earth.
- 11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; * with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
- 12 You crown the year with your goodness, * and your paths overflow with plenty.
- 13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, * and the hills be clothed with joy.
- 14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *
let them shout for joy and sing.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

FIRST READING

read by David Stooksbury

James 1:17-18, 22-27

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 fulfilment 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. 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(a tempo)

How love - ly is your dwell - ing place, O

(a tempo)

Lord God of Hosts!

Fine

A MOMENT OF REFLECTION

Officiant: Lord, have mercy.
People: **Christ, have mercy.**
Officiant: Lord, have mercy.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant: Lord, hear our prayer;
People: **And let our cry come to you.**
Officiant: Let us pray.

COLLECT FOR THANKSGIVING DAY

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, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

BCP 246

A LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.
 For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

We thank you, Lord.

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

We thank you, Lord.

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

We thank you, Lord.

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

We thank you, Lord.

BCP 837

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

We thank you, Lord.

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

We thank you, Lord.

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

We thank you, Lord.

For the communion of saints, in all times and places,

We thank you, Lord.

I invite your thanksgivings for ...

We thank you, Lord.

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

To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.


Praying all of us God's protection during this uncertain period as the world battles the COVID-19 pandemic. Let us not forget, not everything is cancelled - the sun is not cancelled, the season is not cancelled, relationships are not cancelled, love is not cancelled, and most importantly, hope is not cancelled. Continue to guide us to make the right choices to keep ourselves and our loved ones safe. We pray for the families of all those who have been affected and killed by the coronavirus. AMEN.

Adapted by a blessing from Dr. Ojo NPR/UGA African Perspectives

Hymn 397

Now thank we all our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT



1 Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voice - es,
2 O may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us!
3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be giv - en,
who won - drous things hath done, in whom his world re - joic - es;
With ev - er - joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;
the Son, and him who reigns with them in high - est hea - ven,
who from our mo - ther's arms hath blessed us on our way
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
e - ter - nal, Tri - une God, whom earth and heaven a - dore;
with count - less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be, ev - er - more.

BLESSING

Officiant: Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us.
So... be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.
And the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us,
and who travels with us be with us now and forever. AMEN.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



The Rev. Nikki Mathis, Rector
The Rev. Christina Dondero, Deacon
RuthElizabeth Conine-Nakano, Officiant
Daniel Nakano, Assistant Officiant
Annette Bates, Piano
Stacie Court, Cantor
David Stooksbury, Reader
Terri Tillman & Anthony Barkdoll, Virtual Ministers
Jonathan Klein, Organist & Director of Music
Joseph Napoli, Choir Director
Catherine Drewry, Director of Children's Ministries
Kendall M. Kookogey, Parish Administrator
Mark Hein, Buildings & Grounds
Allena Armour, Sexton

