

ST. FRANCIS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A SERVICE OF GRATITUDE

Thanksgiving Eve: November 25th, 2020

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Récit de Cromorne

François Couperin

OPENING HYMN

COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME

Blue Hymnal (1982) 290

1 Come, ye thank - ful peo - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest-home:
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;
3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take his har - vest home;
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest-home;

all is safe - ly gath - ered in, ere the win - ter storms be - gin;
wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown:
from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
gath - er thou thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin;

Descant

4 there, for ev - er pur - i - fied, in thy pres - ence

1 God, our Ma - ker, doth pro - vide for our wants to
2 first the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn
3 give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the
4 there, for ev - er pur - i - fied, in thy pres - ence

to a - bide; come, with all thine an - gels
 be sup - plied; come to God's own tem - ple,
 shall ap - pear: grant, O har - vest Lord, that
 tares to cast, but the fruit - ful ears to
 to a - bide; come, with all thine an - gels

come, raise the glo - rious har - vest - home.
 come, raise the song of har - vest - home.
 we whole - some grain and pure may be.
 store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
 come, raise the glo - rious har - vest - home.

Officiant Let us give thanks to our God, the giver of Life.

People **And praise God's name, for ever and ever.**

Officiant Let us give thanks to the Source of all blessings.

People **And praise God's name, for ever and ever.**

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Silence for the People's prayers.

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.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Reader A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, you shall make this response before the LORD your God:

"A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Silence to hear the Word of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM (100)

Please join in reading the Psalm responsively by half verse.

- 1 Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; *
**serve the LORD with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.**
- 2 Know this: The LORD himself is God; *
**he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**
- 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
- 4 For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 4:4-9

Reader *A Reading from the Letter to the Philippians.*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Silence to hear the Word of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN *PRAISE TO GOD, IMMORTAL PRAISE*

Blue Hymnal (1982) 288

1 Praise to God, im - mor - tal praise, for the love that crowns our days;
 2 All the plen - ty sum - mer pours; au - tumn's rich o'er - flow - ing stores;
 3 As thy pros - pering hand hath blessed, may we give thee of our best;

boun - teous source of ev - ery joy, let thy praise our tongues em - ploy:
 flocks that whit - en all the plain; yel - low sheaves of ri - pened grain:
 and by deeds of kind - ly love for thy mer - cies grate - ful prove;

all to thee, our God, we owe, source whence all our bless - ings flow.
 Lord, for these our souls shall raise grate - ful vows and sol - emn praise.
 sing - ing thus through all our days praise to God, im - mor - tal praise.

THE GOSPEL

John 6:25-35

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the crowd found Jesus on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

Officiant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

ALL **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

A LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: Let us give thanks to God,
the God of all peoples of the earth.

Leader For the color and forms of your creation
and our place within it,
we bring our thanks, good Lord:

***People* Your mercy endures for ever.**

Leader For our daily food,
and for those whose work and skill
bring your good gifts to us,
we bring our thanks, good Lord:

***People* Your mercy endures for ever.**

Leader For the gifts and graces inspired in human minds and hearts;
for insight and imagination,
for the skills of research
which bring healing and fulfilment to the lives of many;
we bring our thanks, good Lord:

***People* Your mercy endures for ever.**

Leader For the light and shades of the changing seasons,
and their variety and dependability;
for new life and growth out of barrenness and decay;
we bring our thanks, good Lord:

***People* Your mercy endures for ever.**

Leader For new hope and strength in our communities,
especially in your Church
and among all you call to serve you,
we bring our thanks, good Lord;

***People* Your mercy endures for ever.**

Leader For all in whose lives we see
goodness, kindness, gentleness, patience and humility,
and all the fruit of the Spirit,
we bring our thanks, good Lord:

***People* Your mercy endures for ever.**

Leader For the life we have been given,
and for all those whom you have given us to share it,
we bring our thanks, good Lord:

***People* Your mercy endures for ever.**

Officiant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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. 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.

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN

NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD

Blue Hymnal (1982) 397

1 Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voic - 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.

POSTLUDE

Duet sur les Tierces

Couperin

ST. FRANCIS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Francis Episcopal Church is a diverse community accepting all.

We gather to worship God, grow in faith, and share in fellowship

We go out to serve Christ by serving others.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME HERE!

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