



GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Service of Worship November 23, 2022 7pm
Thanksgiving Eve

Gathering

GATHERING MUSIC (6:45pm)

Dixieland Band

Phil Holmes, trumpet – Brian Scarborough, trombone
Bob Dover, clarinet & director – Miles McDonald, alto sax
Trey Bures, string bass – Phillip Butler, drum set
Linda Dover, piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Mitch Trigger

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The world is filled with the glory of God, and we say,

All: Thank you!

One: The hills and valleys are filled with color, and we say,

All: Thank you!

One: The vines and trees are filled with fruit, and we say,

All: Thank you!

One: Our tables are overflowing with food, and we say,

All: Thank you!

One: Our life is filled with love of family and friends, and we say,

All: Thank you!

One: We fill this house of God with our voices, saying,

All: Thank you!

*HYMN 367

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

ST. GEORGE’S WINDSOR

367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



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 in thank-ful praise to yield,
 3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the 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 each 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,



God, our Mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
 give the an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 there for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy pres - ence to a - bide:



Come to God's own tem - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit - ful ears to store in God's gar - ner ev - er - more.
 come, with all thine an - gels, come; raise the glo - rious har - vest home!



Despite its familiar Thanksgiving associations, the real concern of this text is to recall the harvest imagery Jesus used to describe the fulfillment of God's sovereignty. The tune name commemorates the royal chapel where the composer was organist for forty-seven years.

PRAYER

One: Loving God, we gather today rich in blessing, somehow believing that we merit the resources and comforts that we enjoy. Forgive us, our God, for comfortably closing our eyes to the faces of the poor that stare blankly in our direction.

ALL: Lord, have mercy on us.

One: With bellies full of all kinds of food, we offer token gestures to the hungry in our world and we feel we have done enough. Forgive us, God, for keeping a distance between "us" and "them," for closing our ears to the cries of the hungry.

ALL: Christ, have mercy on us.

One: With hands tightly grasping our treasures on earth, we cannot reach out to our oppressed brothers and sisters around this world. Forgive us for clinging to our own possessions rather than to you. Unite us with hearts of thanksgiving that we may work to insure freedom and justice for all.

ALL: Lord, have mercy on us.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE & SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you and all others!

*HYMN 36, *stanza 3*

"For the Fruit of All Creation"

AR HYD Y NOS

For the har-vests of the Spir-it, thanks be to God.

For the good we all in-her-it, thanks be to God.

**For the won-ders that as-tound us, for the truths that still con-found us,
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.**

Equipping

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

1 Thessalonians 5:14–24

(CEB)

Brothers and sisters, we urge you to warn those who are disorderly. Comfort the discouraged. Help the weak. Be patient with everyone. Make sure no one repays a wrong with a wrong, but always pursue the good for each other and everyone else. Rejoice always. Pray continually. Give thanks in every situation because this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Don't suppress the Spirit. Don't brush off Spirit-inspired messages, but examine everything carefully and hang on to what is good. Avoid every kind of evil. Now, may the God of peace himself cause you to be completely dedicated to him; and may your spirit, soul, and body be kept intact and blameless at our Lord Jesus Christ's coming. The one who is calling you is faithful and will do this.

Luke 17:11–19

(CEB)

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten men with skin diseases approached him. Keeping their distance from him, they raised their voices and said, “Jesus, Master, show us mercy!” When Jesus saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” As they left, they were cleansed. One of them, when he saw that he had been healed, returned and praised God with a loud voice. He fell on his face at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. He was a Samaritan. Jesus replied, “Weren’t ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? No one returned to praise God except this foreigner?” Then Jesus said to him, “Get up and go. Your faith has healed you.”

ANTHEM

“Autumn Carol”

by Russell Schulz-Widmar

Chancel & Exaltation! Singers, Family, & Friends
Trey Bures, Katie Hearn, & Cheryl Johnson, handbells

*Sing to the Lord of harvest, sing songs of love and praise.
With joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise.
In God the rolling seasons in steadfast order move.
Sing to the Lord of harvest a joyful song of love.*

*The clouds break forth with raining, the deserts bloom and spring,
the hills leap up in gladness, the valleys laugh and sing.
God fills them with abundance and nature’s gifts increase.
The year is crowned with goodness with plenty and with peace.*

*Bring to this sacred altar the gifts God’s goodness gave,
The golden sheaves of harvest, the souls Christ died to save.
Your hearts lay down in off’ring as at his feet you fall.
With holy lives adore him who gave his life for all.*

Sending

EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE AND CARE

“Simple Gifts”

Linda Dover, organist

arr. Chuck Marohnie

THANKSGIVING OFFERING to GIFTS OF GRACE

“We Gather Together”

Linda Dover, organist

arr. Matthew H. Corl

*HYMN 652

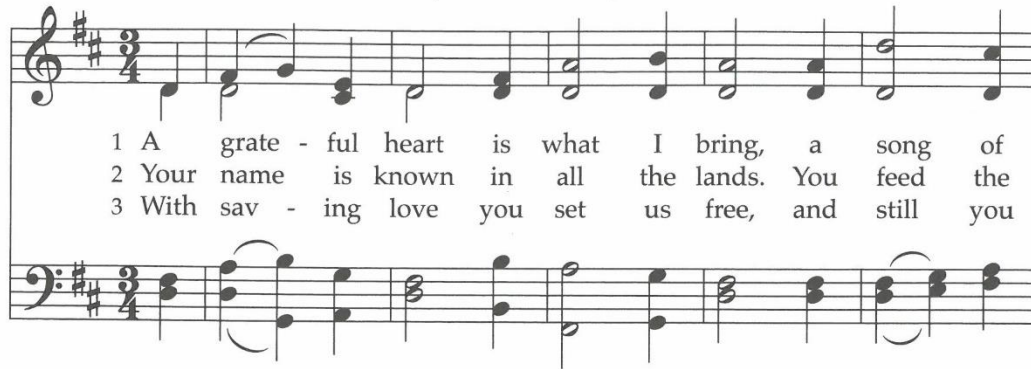
“A Grateful Heart”

ROCKINGHAM

A Grateful Heart

652

(Psalm 111)



1 A grate - ful heart is what I bring, a song of
 2 Your name is known in all the lands. You feed the
 3 With sav - ing love you set us free, and still you



praise, my of - fer - ing. A - mong the saints I
 poor with gen - tle hands. Your word is true, your
 dwell in mys - ter - y with wis - dom none can



lift my voice: in you, O God, I will re - jice.
 works are just; in you, O God, the faith - ful trust.
 com - pre - hend. Your praise, O God, will nev - er end.

This paraphrase of Psalm 111 preserves the psalm's quality of providing a general list of God's praiseworthy characteristics rather than giving thanks for a particular act of deliverance. In the original text these attributes are organized as an acrostic on the Hebrew alphabet.

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (*Seated*)

“Now Thank We All Our God”
Linda Dover, organist

arr. Matthew H. Corl

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

**If convenient/able, please stand.*

Some music is reprinted by permission of CCLI 1154643 and OneLicense A-705105.
Our Church Streaming & Podcast Licenses are CSPL 048834 through CCLI & included in OneLicense A-705105.
Any videos are shown by permission of CVLI #504087502.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOOD EVENING AND WELCOME to this Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service. It is good to share worship with one another and to remember our blessings!

TONIGHT’S OFFERING is designated for the Gifts of Grace Fund. “Gifts of Grace” is an “in-reach” program to help Grace Covenant members and families who may be experiencing financial stress. Donations are accepted to this fund throughout the year and are used when we know about financial issues for church members.

THANK YOU to all the cooks in the congregation for the chili supper.

THANK YOU to Dixieland Band members: Phil Holmes, trumpet; Brian Scarborough, trombone; Bob Dover, clarinet & director; Miles McDonald, alto sax; Trey Bures, string bass; Phillip Butler, drum set; Linda Dover, piano.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED Thursday and Friday of this week.

ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, we begin our observance of ADVENT, the time of preparing for Christ’s coming.