GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Service of Worship  
November 25, 2020 7:00pm  
Thanksgiving Eve

Gathering

PRELUDE  “Partita on Simple Gifts, Variations I & 2”  
Noël Goemanne  
Linda Dover, organist

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP  (spoken together)

Grace and peace to you from God our Parent,
who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing that comes from heaven:
  who knew you and chose you before the world began;
  who loves you so much that she calls you her own children;
  who has brought you from darkness into light
  and filled you with his glorious power;
  who has prepared an inheritance for you that will never spoil or fade;
  who encourages and strengthens you in every good deed and word;
  who comforts you in your troubles so that you can comfort others.
This is our God, the ultimate source of all things, and the One for whom we live.  
Let’s worship God together!

HYMN 36  “For the Fruit of All Creation”  
AR HYD Y NOS
For the Fruit of All Creation

1 For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
2 In the just reward of labor, God’s will be done.
3 For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.

For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neighbor, God’s will be done.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.

For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are
In our world-wide task of caring for the hungry and needy.
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still

sleeping, future needs in earth’s safe-keeping, thanks be to God.
spairing, in the harvests we are sharing, God’s will be done.
found us, most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Originally called “Harvest Hymn,” this text is much more comprehensive than that title implies. It also deals with stewardship, thanksgiving, and God’s endless gifts that continue to astound us. It is set to a familiar Welsh tune whose name means “throughout the night.”
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!

Equipping

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Colossians 3:16 (Common English Bible)
The word of Christ must live in you richly. Teach and warn each other with all wisdom by singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing to God with gratitude in your hearts. Beautiful things are always in your right hand.

First Thessalonians 5:16–18 (Common English Bible)
Rejoice always. Pray continually. Give thanks in every situation because this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

VIDEO “Finding Moments of Gratitude in a Pandemic”

DUET “Thanksgiving Song” by Mary Chapin Carpenter
Terri Monrad, solo — Christopher Callender, guitar

Grateful for each hand we hold gathered round this table.
From far and near we travel home, blessed that we are able.

Grateful for this sheltered place with light in every window,
   Saying welcome, welcome, share this feast
Come in away from sorrow.

Father, mother, daughter, son, neighbor, friend and friendless;
   All together everyone in the gift of loving-kindness.

Grateful for what’s understood, and all that is forgiven;
   We try so hard to be good, to lead a life worth living.

Father, mother, daughter, son, neighbor, friend, and friendless;
   All together everyone, let grateful days be endless.

Grateful for each hand we hold gathered round this table.
REFLECTION

“Adopting an Attitude”

Rev. Mitch Trigger

Sending

EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE AND CARE

HYMN 645

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

MIT FREUDEN ZART
1 Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation, the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.
2 What God’s almighty power has made God’s gracious mercy keepeth; by morning glow or evening shade God’s watchful eye ne’er sleepeth. With our peace and joy and blessing, as
3 The Lord is never far away, but, through all grief thy praises, that all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises. Be
4 Thus all my toilsome way along I sing aloud healing balm my soul is filled, and every faithless in the kingdom of God’s might, lo! all is just and with a mother’s tender hand God gently leads the joyful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and body,
CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Partita on Simple Gifts, Variation VII” Noël Goemmane
Linda Dover, organist

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

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