



November 19, 2023 • 11 a.m.
Gratitude Sunday

PRELUDE

FUGUE ON "ST. ANNE" *Paul Manz*
("Our God, our help in ages past") (1975)
PRELUDE – LEGEND OF THE WIND *Rachel Laurin*
(2019)

☞ Please rise in body, mind, or spirit, as you are able, for every hymn. ☞

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD "Nun danket alle Gott"
(see next page)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Seth Patterson

One: We are surrounded by showers of blessings and are free to enjoy the generous yield of the earth.

***All:* Our hearts are overflowing with gratitude and thanksgiving.**

One: We bask in the overflow of love, grace, and mercy as pure gift.

***All:* We sing hymns and make melodies with gratitude and thanksgiving.**

One: We have been blessed with the privilege of sharing in the ministry of all the saints to build up this body.

***All:* We gather as beloved community with gratitude and thanksgiving.**

One: We sow generously in time, talent, and treasure and reap a harvest of blessings.

***All:* We respond to every blessing with gratitude and thanksgiving.**

☞ Please be seated. ☞

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD

Martin Rinkhart, c. 1636

Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

"Lyra Germanica II," 1858

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6.

Melody by Johann Crüger, 1648

Harm. adapt. from Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

1 Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voice,
2 O may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God Creator now be given,

Who wondrous things has done, In whom God's world rejoices.
With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us,
The Christ, and Holy Ghost Who reign in highest heaven,

Who, from our parents' arms, Has blessed us on our way
And keep us in God's grace, And guide us when perplexed,
The one eternal God, Whom earth and heaven adore,

With countless 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 evermore.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Tender, loving God, 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever. Amen.

PEACE CANDLE RESPONSE WHAT GIFT CAN WE BRING?

*Jane Marshall
(1980)*

What gift can we bring, what present, what token?
What words can convey it, the joy of this day?
When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,
What song can we offer in honor and praise?

Give thanks for the past, for those who had vision,
Who planted and watered so dreams could come true.
Give thanks for the now, for study, for worship,
For mission that bids us turn prayer into deed.

Give thanks for tomorrow, full of surprises,
For knowing whatever tomorrow may bring,
The Word is our promise always, forever;
We rest in God's keeping and live in God's love.

—*Jane Marshall, based on passages in 1 Samuel, 1 Corinthians, and 1 John*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FELLOWSHIP JOY

SHARING GRACE

ANTHEM SING TO THE LORD OF HARVEST *Johann Steurlein, c. 1600*
The Fire Tree Singers and the Plymouth Choir *arr. James Hopkins, 1985*

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

God makes the clouds drop fatness, the deserts bloom and spring;
The hills leap up in gladness, the valleys laugh and sing.
God fills them with such fullness, all things with large increase;
God crowns the year with goodness, with plenty and with peace.

(continued)

For harvests of the spirit we give our thanks to God;
The good we all inherit, we give our thanks to God.
Our voices offer praises, to God our thanks we raise;
To you our great Redeemer for evermore be praise.

—John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, *alt.*

SCRIPTURE READING

2 CORINTHIANS 9:7–15

SERMON

AN INDESCRIBABLE GIFT

DeWayne L. Davis

CALL TO COMMITMENT

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

One: For every mountain you brought us over; for every trial you've seen us through, to bring us to this moment:

All: We dedicate our gifts to You, Spirit of Love.

One: For the opportunities you've afforded us to seek and serve God and our neighbors within, among, and beyond ourselves:

All: We dedicate our gifts to You, Spirit of Mercy.

One: For the growth all around us—all the possibilities of next year—the new people who will sit in these pews, the new programs through which we will reach out, the service we will render to all God's children, and the kindling of our moral imagination to be the church our community needs:

All: We dedicate our gifts to You, Spirit of Abundance.

One: For the nurture of this beloved community, the vibrant worship that sets our spirits free, the arts and music that feed our souls, the anointing that drives our pursuit of justice, and the grace of songs, prayers, and proclamation that blesses our going out and coming in:

All: We dedicate our gifts to You, Spirit of Generosity.

One: All these gifts we sow wishfully and prayerfully that grace may flow through us to all the world.

All: We give you thanks and praise for so many blessings and dedicate these gifts to You, O God. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAISE, O PRAISE THE GREAT CREATOR *Johann Sebastian Bach*
(Adapted from Cantata 207) (1734)

Praise, O praise the great Creator
For the goodness and the bounty
Showered upon us still throughout the year.
Praise God, snow and wind and rain,
Praise God, buds and blossoms fair,
Fruits and fields of golden grain,
Beasts of earth and birds of air.
Praise our God, ye heavens adoring,
And ye angels in the height.
Sun and moon rejoice in chorus,
Praise God, all ye stars of light.

✚ Please rise in body, mind, or spirit, as you are able. ✚

DOXOLOGY

"Dix"

**Praise to God, immortal praise, for the love that crowns our days!
Bounteous source of every joy, let thy praise our tongues employ;
Singing thus through all our days: Praise to God, immortal praise! Amen.**

✚ Please be seated. ✚

PASTORAL PRAYER

Beth Hoffman Faeth

RECESSIONAL HYMN

LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING
(see next pages)

"The Ash Grove"

COVENANT BENECTION

**We covenant with you, O God, and one with another, and do bind
ourselves in your presence to walk together in all your ways, according
as you are pleased to reveal yourself to us in your blessed word of truth.**

—based on the Salem Covenant of 1629

As the postlude is played, you are welcome to leave the sanctuary or stay and enjoy the music.

POSTLUDE

RECESSIONAL ON "THE ASH GROVE"
(This morning's recessional hymn)

Mark Sedio
(2000)



LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING

Katherine K. Davis, 1892-1980, alt.
Based on Genesis 1; Job 26:7-14, 38

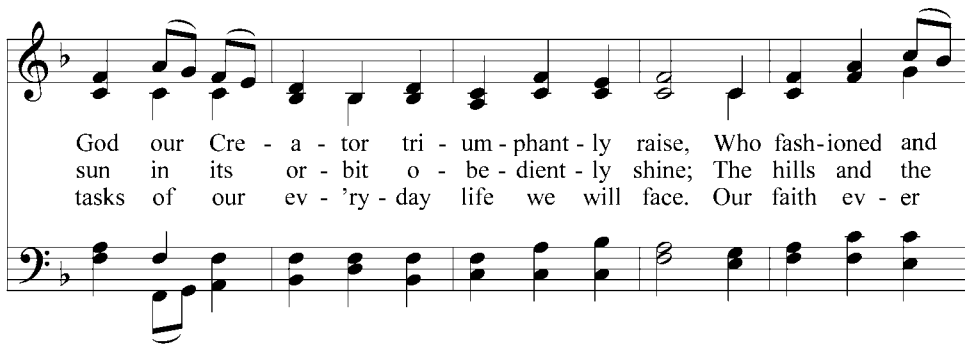
THE ASH GROVE 12.11.12.11.D.

Welsh melody

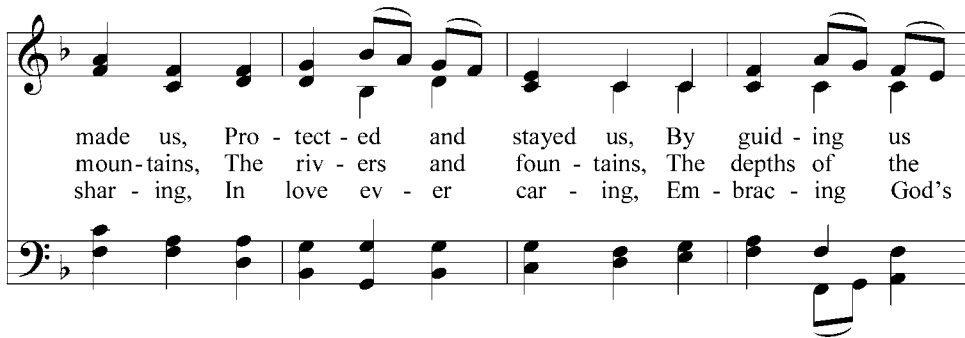
Arr. Katherine K. Davis, 1939



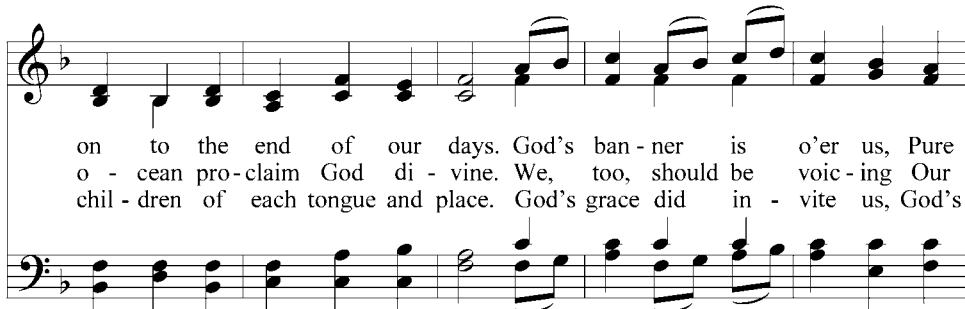
1 Let all things now liv - ing A song of thanks - giv - ing To
2 All law God en - forc - es, The stars in their cours - es, The
3 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er liv - ing, The



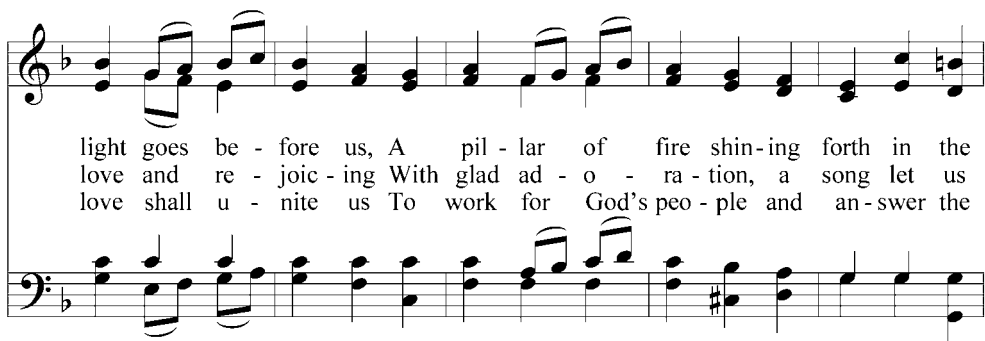
God our Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise, Who fash - ioned and
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine; The hills and the
tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face. Our faith ev - er



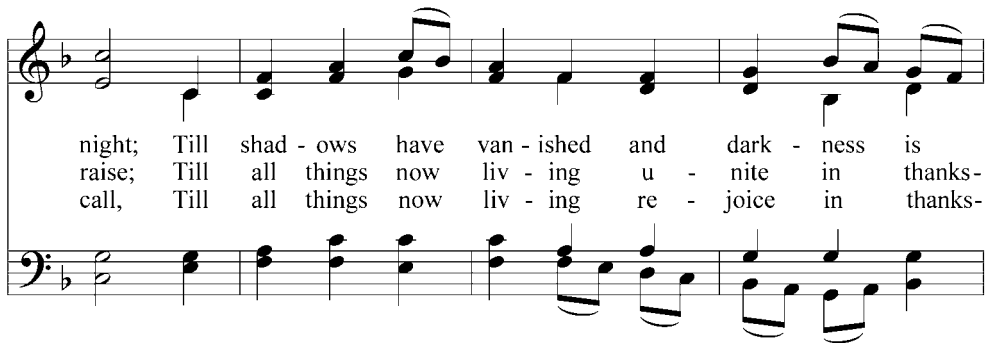
made us, Pro - tect - ed and stayed us, By guid - ing us
moun - tains, The riv - ers and foun - tains, The depths of the
shar - ing, In love ev - er car - ing, Em - brac - ing God's



on to the end of our days. God's ban - ner is o'er us, Pure
o - cean pro - claim God di - vine. We, too, should be voic - ing Our
chil - dren of each tongue and place. God's grace did in - vite us, God's



light goes be - fore us, A pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the
 love and re - joic - ing With glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us
 love shall u - nite us To work for God's peo - ple and an - swer the



night; Till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is
 raise; Till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks -
 call, Till all things now liv - ing re - joice in thanks -



ban - ished, As for - ward we trav - el from light in - to Light.
 giv - ing: "To God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"
 giv - ing: "To God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES that we are on the sacred traditional territory of the Dakota people. It is an honor to live, pray, seek justice, and create community alongside Dakota, Ojibwe, and other Indigenous people in the Twin Cities.

MANY AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRITUALS AND HYMNS were never credited to their creators or were claimed by other individuals. When Plymouth Congregational Church uses music or music texts created by people who were kept in chattel slavery, we will donate to a historically Black institution as a reparative action in honor of the creators and their descendants.

CHURCH REGISTER

RECENTLY DECEASED

Tom Hunt (November 12, 2023), husband of John Wheelihan, father of Lang Hunt and Lucy Nelson, brother of Penny Hunt

UPCOMING MEMORIAL

A service for Karl Bottemiller will be held at Plymouth Church on Tuesday, November 21, at 10 a.m.

HOME AND HOSPITAL VISITS: Plymouth's ministers call upon members of the church in their homes, in hospitals or care and rehabilitation centers. If you know of someone who would like a visit from a minister, please contact Rev. Beth Hoffman Faeth (612/871-7400).

CHANCEL FLOWERS are given in loving memory of Bud and Fern Friskey by their daughters, Martha Van Hemert, Marilyn Mahmud, Maureen Tanis, and families.

WORSHIP STAFF: DeWayne L. Davis, *Lead Minister*; Beth Hoffman Faeth, *Minister for Congregational Life*; Seth Patterson, *Minister for Justice & the Arts*; Philip Brunelle, *Organist-Choirmaster*; Marie Scholtz, *Associate Music Director & First Service Music Coordinator*; Laura Caviani, *First Service Trio Director*; Cody Bourdot, *A/V Production Manager*

ADULT CHOIR: Philip Brunelle, *director*; **SOLO QUINTET:** Maria Jette & Kathryn Rupp, *soprano*; Lisa Drew, *alto*; Dan Dressen, *tenor*; and James Bohn, *bass*

THE FIRE TREE SINGERS: Marie Scholtz, *director*

Today's Music: We include two noted Minneapolis organ composers, Paul Manz and Mark Sedio. Manz was Cantor Emeritus at Mt. Olive Lutheran for many years, and Sedio recently retired as Cantor from Central Lutheran. The anthems feature German composers: Johann Sebastian Bach in a setting from one of his cantatas, originally composed for a German emperor and later adapted with a sacred text; and Johann Steurlein, German lawyer, town mayor, composer, and hymn writer.

Rachel Laurin, an outstanding Canadian organist and composer, passed away earlier this year. She concertized throughout Europe, Canada, and the United States and composed more than 100 works for various instruments as well as organ and choir. Jane Marshall composed many hymns and choral works and taught for many years at the Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University. James Hopkins has composed music in many forms and is Professor Emeritus in composition at the University of Southern California.