



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

NOVEMBER 24, 2021
Thanksgiving Eve



For Christ, for His kingdom, and for the common good. Since 1785.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

†VOLUNTARY

We Gather Together
Matthew H. Corl

†INTROIT

Come, Thou Fount

Come, thou fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above; praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's redeeming love! Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood. O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

*WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP | adapted from Philippians 4:4–9

Pastor: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

People: **We will not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving we will make our requests known to God.**

Pastor: And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

People: **As the beloved, we will dwell upon whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable.**

Pastor: Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in Jesus, and the God of peace will be with you.

*†OPENING HYMN

Amazing Grace

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.**

**The Lord has promised good to me; his Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.**

*THANKSGIVING LITANY

Mary Elizabeth Colton

Liturgist: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our rock, our fortress, and our deliverer. Let us remember his mercy, for he is gracious and compassionate.

People: **We thank you for calling us to faith in Christ, for putting your Spirit within us, for giving us the mind of Christ, for gathering us into your church.**

Liturgist: We thank you, Lord, for extending your grace to us, for calling us to a life of gratitude, for calling us to service in your kingdom.

People: Thanks be to God!

Liturgist: Let us give thanks to the Lord, for he satisfies the thirsty, he fills the hungry with good things, and he heals the afflicted. Let us celebrate his abundant goodness.

People: We thank you, gracious Father, that you provide for all our needs, for the food on our tables, for the clothes on our bodies, for the beds we sleep in, and for the dwellings that shelter us.

Liturgist: We praise you for all your gifts that go beyond our basic needs, for the things that make our work easier, for the conveniences of modern life, for the beauty and pleasure that you bring into our lives.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING | John 6:25–35

²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?”

²⁶ Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷ Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.” ²⁸ Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?” ²⁹ Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” ³⁰ So they said to him, “Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?” ³¹ Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” ³² Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” ³⁴ They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.” ³⁵ Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.”

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MEDITATION

Real Bread

Rev. Joshua Rodriguez

COMMUNION

Dr. Sandra Randleman

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND 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 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, forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SERVING OF THE ELEMENTS

SONG OF REFLECTION

Mystery
Charlie Hall

Sweet Jesus Christ, my sanity, sweet Jesus Christ, my clarity, bread of heaven broken for me, cup of salvation held up to drink; Jesus, mystery. Christ has died and Christ is risen and Christ will come again. Celebrate his death and rising; lift your eyes, proclaim his coming.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT

How Deep the Father's Love for Us
Stuart Townend

**How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
That he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss—the Father turns his face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.**

**Behold the man upon a cross, my sin upon his shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life—I know that it is finished.**

**I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart—his wounds have paid my ransom.**

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Now Thank We All Our God
Sigfrid Karg-Elert

* Those who are able, please stand.

† Latecomers may be seated.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Joshua Rodriguez, MDiv – *Associate Pastor for Young Adult Ministry*
Sandra Randleman, DMin – *Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Missions*
Peter Rogahn, DMA – *Organist and Assistant Director of Music*
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