# National Thanksgiving Day Service



Thursday, November 23, 2023 10:00 AM

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

# A PROCLAMATION

By the President of the United States of America, a Proclamation.

Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor—and whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.

Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be—That we may then all unite in rendering unto him our sincere and humble thanks—for his kind care and protection of the People of this Country previous to their becoming a Nation for the signal and manifold mercies, and the favorable interpositions of his Providence which we experienced in the course and conclusion of the late war—for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty, which we have since enjoyed—for the peaceable and rational manner, in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national One now lately instituted for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed; and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and in general for all the great and various favors which he hath been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech him to pardon our national and other transgressions—to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually—to render our national government a blessing to all the people, by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed—to protect and guide all Sovereigns and Nations (especially such as have shewn kindness unto us) and to bless them with good government, peace, and concord—To promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the encrease of science among them and us—and generally to grant unto all Mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as he alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand at the City of New York the third day of October in the year of our Lord 1789.

George Washington

# National Thanksgiving Day Service

November 23, 2023 • 10:00 AM

# The people's responses are in **bold**.

# CARILLON PRELUDE

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come We Plow the Fields and Scatter Variations on "Nun danket" Song of Thanksgiving

# PRELUDE

Prelude for Thanksgiving

# THE ENTRANCE RITE

# INTROIT

Sing, My Soul, His Wondrous Love

Sing, my soul, his wondrous love, Who, from yon bright throne above, Ever watchful o'er our race, Still to man extends his grace.

Heaven and earth by him were made; All is by his scepter swayed; What are we that he should show So much love to us below?

God, the merciful and good, Bought us with the Savior's blood, And, to make our safety sure, Guides us by his Spirit pure.

Sing, my soul, adore his Name! Let his glory be thy theme: Praise him till he calls thee home; Trust his love for all to come.

(Anonymous, 1800)

The people stand as able.

# land acknowledgement ${\mathscr C}$ indigenous prayer

St. George's, Windsor; arr. Ronald Barnes (1927–1997) Wir pflügen; arr. Kamiel Lefevere (1888–1984) Anton van Ooik (1909–1996) Johan Franco (1908–1988)

William C. Steere (ca. 1880–1960)

Ned Rorem (1923–2022)

#### HYMN AT THE PROCESSION • 291



#### THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

We give you thanks, O God, and call upon your Name; we make known your deeds among the peoples.

We sing to you; we sing your praise and speak of all your marvelous works.

We glory in your holy Name; Let the hearts of those who seek you rejoice.

The people are seated.

#### PROCLAMATION OF THANKSGIVING

By the President of the United States of America

The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. In the midst of a civil war of unequaled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign States to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere except in the theater of military conflict; while that theater has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense, have not arrested the plough, the shuttle or the ship; the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious

metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege and the battlefield; and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom. No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens.

And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquillity and Union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed,

Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-eighth.

Abraham Lincoln

# The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

## HYMN



# THE COLLECT FOR THANKSGIVING DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray.

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.** 

# A PRAYER FOR THE NATION

Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

# The people are seated.

# The Word of God

# THE FIRST LESSON

## Deuteronomy 8:7-18

The Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the Lord your God for the good land that he has given you. Take care that you do not forget the Lord your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth." But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

Here ends the reading.

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands: serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

(Psalm 100)

# THE SECOND LESSON

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Here ends the reading.

# ANTHEM

It Is a Good Thing to Give Thanks

Sung by the choir.

David Hurd (b. 1950)

It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord; and to sing praises to your Name, O Most High; To tell of your loving-kindness early in the morning and of your faithfulness in the night season; On the psaltery, and on the lyre,

and to the melody of the harp.

For you have made me glad by your acts, O Lord;

and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.

(Psalm 92:1-4)

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

#### THE THIRD LESSON

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

Here ends the reading.

The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

# HYMN • 433



The people are seated at the invitation of the homilist.

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Canon Dana Colley Corsello

#### ANTHEM

Let Us Break Bread Together

Let us break bread together on our knees, Let us break bread together on our knees, When I fall down on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees, Let us drink wine together on our knees, When I fall down on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees, Let us praise God together on our knees, When I fall down on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

# The people stand as able.

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

Said by all.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

# Said by 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.

# A LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea, We thank you, Lord.

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ, We thank you, Lord.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends, We thank you, Lord.

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve, We thank you, Lord.

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play, We thank you, Lord.

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity, We thank you, Lord.

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice, We thank you, Lord.

For the communion of saints, in all times and places, We thank you, Lord.

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord; To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

# THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you. And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and then are seated.

# THE OFFERTORY

An offering is received to support the Cathedral's ministry of sharing God's love. All are invited to make a gift as the plate is passed, at cathedral.org/give, by scanning the code on the back cover of this leaflet, or by texting the dollar amount you wish to give to 202-856-9005.

# ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

Ain't-a That Good News

Sung by the choir.

Negro spiritual; arr. Stacey V. Gibbs (b. 1962)

I got a crown up in-a the kingdom, ain't-a that good news, I got a crown up in-a the kingdom, ain't-a that good news, I'm-a gonna lay down this world, gonna shoulder up-a my cross, Then I'm gonna take it home-a to my Jesus, ain't-a that good news?

I got a Savior in-a the kingdom, ain't-a that good news, I got a Savior in-a the kingdom, ain't-a that good news, I'm-a gonna lay down this world, gonna shoulder up-a my cross, Then I'm gonna take it home-a to my Jesus, ain't-a that good news?

I got a harp up in-a the kingdom, ain't-a that good news, I got a harp up in-a the kingdom, ain't-a that good news, I'm-a gonna lay down this world, gonna shoulder up-a my cross, Then I'm gonna take it home-a to my Jesus, ain't-a that good news?

I got a robe, you got a robe, All God's children got a robe, hallelujah, When I get to heaven gonna put on my robe And walk all over God's heaven.

I got a robe up in-a the kingdom, ain't-a that good news, I got a robe up in-a the kingdom, ain't-a that good news, I'm-a gonna lay down this world, gonna shoulder up-a my cross, Then I'm gonna take it home-a to my Jesus, ain't-a that good news?

# The people stand as able.

# A PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

Eternal God, our creator, you set us to live in families. We commend to your care all the homes where your people live. Keep them, we pray, free from bitterness, from the thirst for personal victory, and from pride in self. Fill them with faith, virtue, knowledge, moderation, patience, and godliness. Knit together in enduring affection those who have become one in marriage. Let children and parents have full respect for one another; and light the fire of kindliness among us all, that we may show affection for each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# A PRAYER FOR THE HUMAN FAMILY

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### A GENERAL THANKSGIVING

# Said by all.

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.

# THE BLESSING

The dean blesses the people, and the people respond, Amen.

## THE DISMISSAL

Freely you have received, freely give. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

# HYMN AT THE CLOSING • 397

Now Thank We All Our God							Sung by all.					Nui	n dankei	t alle Gott
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# POSTLUDE

Nun danket alle Gott, Op. 65, No. 59

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# ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2023

# SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Holy Eucharist • 8:00 AM (St. Mary's Chapel) • 11:15 AM (nave + live webcast) Advent Lessons and Carols • 4:00 PM (nave + live webcast)

## **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8**

Handel's Messiah • 7:00 PM (nave) tickets required

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Handel's *Messiah* - Family Concert • NOON (nave) tickets required Handel's *Messiah* • 4:00 PM (nave) tickets required

# SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Holy Eucharist • 8:00 AM (St. Mary's Chapel) • 11:15 AM (nave + live webcast) Handel's *Messiah* • 4:00 PM (nave + live webcast) **tickets required** 

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

Christmas with the King's Singers • 7:00 PM (nave) tickets required

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Holy Eucharist • 8:00 AM (St. Mary's Chapel) • 11:15 AM (nave + live webcast)

#### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19**

Blue Christmas Service • 7:00 PM (Great Choir + live webcast)

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

Gospel Christmas • 6:00 PM (nave + live webcast) passes required

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

Family Christmas Service • 11:00 AM (nave + live webcast) passes required Christmas Lessons and Carols • 6:00 PM (nave + live webcast) passes required

Sunday, December 24: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist • 11:15 AM (nave + live webcast)

#### Sunday, December 24: Christmas Eve

Christmas Lessons and Carols • 6:00 PM (nave + live webcast) **passes required** Festival Holy Eucharist of Christmas Eve • 10:00 PM (nave + live webcast) **passes required** 

#### Monday, December 25: Christmas Day

Festival Holy Eucharist of Christmas Day • 11:15 AM (nave + live webcast) Christmas Day Organ Recital • 1:30 PM (nave + live webcast)

Christmas services passes will be available starting Monday, November 27, at: Cathedral.org/Christmas



# SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

#### OFFICIANTS

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith Dean

The Reverend Canon Leonard L. Hamlin, Sr. *Canon Missioner and Minister of Equity and Inclusion* 

#### HOMILIST

The Reverend Canon Dana Colley Corsello Canon Vicar

#### ASSISTING CLERGY

The Reverend Canon Jan Naylor Cope Provost

The Reverend Nan A. Peete

The Reverend Dr. Martha Watson

The Venerable Steve Seely Archdeacon, Episcopal Diocese of Washington

#### READERS

Norman A. Pugh-Newby E. Claire Jerry Daniel Weatherholdt Paula B. Mays

#### MUSICIANS

The Cathedral Choir

Canon Michael McCarthy Canon for Music and Director of Institutional Planning

> Rebecca Ehren Organ Scholar

Dr. Edward M. Nassor *Carillonneur* 

# Thank you for joining us in worship.

The work of this Cathedral is made possible entirely through the support of individuals like you. The gifts of people from across the country and the world are behind every worship service, concert, public program, and the daily work of maintaining this historic landmark and house of prayer for all people.



All are invited to make a gift to support the Cathedral's ministry of sharing God's love as the plate is passed. Gifts may also be made online by scanning the QR code at the left, or by texting the dollar amount you wish to give to 202-856-9005.

Thank you for your generosity. Please know that your participation with us today has been a blessing.

FLOWERS The flowers throughout the Cathedral are given to the glory of God. The High Altar: in memory of Harry Lee Rust; in loving memory of August M. Stromberg and Harriett MacDonald Stromberg; St. Mary's Chapel Altar: in thanksgiving for the lives of the Wildman New England ancestors; Holy Spirit Chapel Altar: in memory and honor of the Davis and Capers families; Children's Chapel Altar: in thanksgiving for the life of Philip Hubert Frohman; in memory of Mrs. Charles Bradford Murray; War Memorial Chapel Altar: in memory of Martha Ingles Schrader; Prince Tomb, St. John's Chapel: in thanksgiving for Norman Prince; Dulin Bay: in memory of Eugenia Bell Dulin; Folger Bay: in memory of J. Clifford Folger; Bethlehem Chapel Altar: in loving memory of David Edwards Varner; in loving memory of Polly Donnelly Hutton; Prince Tomb, Crypt: in thanksgiving for Frederick and Abigail Norman Prince.

Those wishing to make flower gifts for Christmas are invited to submit their gifts before December 1 to the Altar Guild or online at cathedral.org/donate/memorial-honor-gifts.

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