**Thanksgiving Day (A) – Thursday 26 November 2020**

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**OPENING SENTENCE**

**Presider:** Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

***People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.***

**COLLECT FOR PURITY**

**Presider:** Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

**PRAYER OF PRAISE**

**Presider:** O Lord, as we prepare to celebrate and give thanks this year, may we find it in our hearts to be grateful no matter what.

***People: May we praise you for what we can do and praise you in spite of what we can't.***

***May we thank you for what is and what isn't, for what is going well and for what is not.***

***May we thank you for what brings us joy and even for that which brings us grief, for if our grief testifies to anything, it testifies to the depths of our love.***

**Presider:** Bless us and keep us, dear God, we pray, and turn our hearts ever and always toward your all-encompassing light; you who are our creator and savior, our redeemer and friend.

***People: Amen.***

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**Presider:** The Lord be with you.

***People: And also with you.***

**Presider:** 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.***

*We read each month from the various biblical translations authorized by our Church. This month we read from the New International Version (1978)*

**FIRST LESSON** Deuteronomy 8:7-18

**Reader:** A reading from Deuteronomy. 7The Lord your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with brooks, streams, and deep springs gushing out into the valleys and hills; 8a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey; 9a land where bread will not be scarce and you will lack nothing; a land where the rocks are iron and you can dig copper out of the hills. 10When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land he has given you. 11Be careful that you do not forget the Lord your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. 12Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, 13and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, 14then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. 15He led you through the vast and dreadful wilderness, that thirsty and waterless land, with its venomous snakes and scorpions. He brought you water out of hard rock. 16He gave you manna to eat in the wilderness, something your ancestors had never known, to humble and test you so that in the end it might go well with you. 17You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” 18But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today. The Word of the Lord.

***People: Thanks be to God.***

**RESPONSE** *(Please say together in unison)* Psalm 65

***1Praise awaits you, our God, in Zion; to you our vows will be fulfilled.  
2You who answer prayer, to you all people will come.  
3When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions.  
4Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts! We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple.***

***5You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds, God our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas,  
6who formed the mountains by your power, having armed yourself with strength, who stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations.  
8The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders; where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy.***

***9You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly. The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, for so you have ordained it.***

***10You drench its furrows and level its ridges; you soften it with showers and bless its crops.  
11You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance.  
12The grasslands of the wilderness overflow; the hills are clothed with gladness.  
13The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are mantled with grain; they shout for joy and sing.***

**SECOND READING** 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

**Reader:**  A reading from the Second Letter to the Corinthians. 6Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 7Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 9As it is written: “They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever.” 10Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. 11You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. 12This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. 13Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. 14And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. 15Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! The Word of the Lord.

***People: Thanks be to God.***

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**Presider:** God of extravagant grace, may your Spirit refresh our hearts through the reading of the scriptures that we may perceive all the good we can do for Christ and so grow in our faith toward our Lord Jesus.

***People: Amen.***

**GOSPEL**  Luke 17:11-19

**Presider:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

***People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

**Presider:** 11Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. 12As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance 13and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!” 14When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed. 15One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. 16He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. 17Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? 18Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” 19Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.” The Gospel of the Lord.

***People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

**SERMON** The Rev. M. C. Gillette

*(A brief period of silence follows the sermon)*

**LITANY OF THANKSGIVING**

**Leader:** Let us give thanks to God for all God’s gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

**Leader:** For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea,

***People: We thank you, Lord.***

**Leader:** For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

***People: We thank you, Lord.***

**Leader:**  For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

***People: We thank you, Lord.***

**Leader:** For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

***People: We thank you, Lord.***

**Leader:** For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,

***People: We thank you, Lord.***

**Leader:** For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

***People: We thank you, Lord.***

**Leader:** For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

***People: We thank you, Lord.***

**Leader:** For the communion of saints, in all times and places,

***People: We thank you, Lord.***

**Leader:** Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;

***People:* *To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.***

**CONFESSION OF SIN**

**Presider:** Brothers and sisters, we have come together to hear God's most holy Word, and to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord. Let us therefore examine ourselves in silence, seeking God's grace that we may draw near to God with repentance and faith.

*Silence.*

**Presider:** Let us pray for God’s forgiveness of our sins. For taking advantage of other's weakness or powerlessness, for taking people for granted, for directly or indirectly hurting or ridiculing people when God's Word says that we have to encourage, build up, equip and bear one another's burdens,

***People: God have mercy and forgive us our sins.***

**Presider:** For our unwillingness to be reformed, so that we can be transformed as a people, as a church and as a community, when God's Word says that we are each not only to look to our own interests, but also to the interests of others, following the example of our Lord Jesus who emptied himself even unto death on the cross,

***People: God have mercy and forgive us our sins.***

**Presider:**  For our lack of honesty and integrity in the life and work of the church, in our society, for our sham and show, for our hypocrisy and double standards, for our lack of priority and perspective, for being preoccupied with life in fragments and at the periphery, when God's Word exhorts us to be occupied with more important matters like justice, mercy and faithfulness,

***People: God have mercy and forgive us our sins.***

**Presider:** The Savior of the world, the refuge of the repentant, forgives and strengthens all who truly seek God’s grace. You are accepted as sons and daughters of the Most High, and set free from the bondage of your past. For Christ died and rose to new life that we might all share his wholeness and abundant life. As God's own people, be merciful in action, kind in heart, humble in mind. Be always ready to forgive as freely as God has forgiven you. And, above everything else, be loving, and never forget to be thankful for what Christ has done for you.

***People: Amen. Thanks be to God.***

**THE PEACE**

**Presider:** Having been forgiven and made whole through our Peacemaker, let us live together in Peace. God's Peace challenges us and guides us towards the acts of justice, peace and integration of the whole creation. Let us greet one another with a word of reconciliation and peace. The peace of the Lord be with you:

***People: And also with you.***

**OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*(The Presider gives this or another Offertory Sentence)* Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

**GREAT THANKSGIVING** Rite II Prayer C

**Presider:** The Lord be with you.

***People: And also with you.***

**Presider:** Lift up your hearts.

***People: We lift them to the Lord.***

**Presider:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

**Presider:** God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

***People: Glory to you for ever and ever.***

**Presider:** At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

***People: By your will they were created and have their being*.**

**Presider:** From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

***People: Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.***

**Presider:** Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

***People: By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.***

**Presider:** And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn.

**SANCTUS**

***All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.***

**Presider:** And so, dear God, **+** we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. **∞** Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**↑** On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

**↑** After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

***All: We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming*.**

**Presider:** Lord God of our Ancestors; God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

***People: Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.***

**Presider:** **↑** Accept these prayers and praises, gracious God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. ***AMEN.***

**LORD’S PRAYER:**

**Presider:** As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

***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.***

**FRACTION (THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD)**

*(The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A brief period of silence is kept.)*

**Presider:** Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

***People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

**Presider:** The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**Presider:** Let us pray.

***All: Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.***

**BLESSING**

**Presider**: **Presider:** Be of good courage. Hold onto what is good. Return no one evil for evil. Strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, and help the suffering. In all things, love and serve your Lord. And the blessing of God, the Holy Immortal One, the Incarnate Word, and the Breath of Life, be with you now and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

**DISMISSAL** *(Please remain standing)*

*(The Presider gives this or another dismissal)*  Go out in the strength of God’s gracious gifts. Live lives worthy of the gospel of Christ. Stand firm in one spirit. Strive with one mind for the faith of the gospel.   
And may the power and the presence of God go with you. May the Call of Christ lead you into fruitful labor. And may the Holy Spirit fill you with the joy of grace.

***People: We go in peace to love and serve the Lord in the name of Christ. Amen.***

**Hymn of Praise**: written by Sarah Buteux.  Posted on MINEmergent’s Daily Communique, January 18, 2013

**Prayer of Illumination:** From a collection of prayers posted on the **Worship@North** website. <https://northchurchindy.wordpress.com/>

**Confession of Sin and Peace:** Church of South India Book of Common Worship 2004

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