



Mountain Shadows Presbyterian Church

Centered in Christ, Caring for Community

Sunday, November 18, 2018, 10:00 AM
A Thanksgiving Service of Worship

Gather in God's Name

*Thank you for silencing all mobile phones. * Stand as you are able. Please sign the fellowship pad, found on the chair on the center aisle. When all have signed, pass the pad back to the center.*

Prelude *Amazing Grace/My Chains Are Gone* Ar. Tom Fettke

Lighting of the Christ Candle and Opening Prayer

Welcome, Announcements, Introductions of Guests and Visitors

Introit *Give Thanks* Henry Smith

Call to Worship (responsive) Worship Co-Leader: Rod Hutton

Give thanks to the Lord who is good.

God's love is everlasting.

Come, let us praise God joyfully.

Let us come to God with thanksgiving.

For the good world;

for things great and small, beautiful and awesome;

for seen and unseen splendors;

Thank you, God. We worship you!

*Hymn # 336 *We Gather Together*

A Call to Gratitude

Thanksgiving is both a holiday and an ongoing act
that speaks of our love for God.

Thanksgiving allows us to gather as family and celebrate
the many marvelous acts of God.

This is a time to reflect:

upon the suffering and challenges that have arisen this year,
and how God has, through Jesus Christ,
enabled us not only to endure but also to grow.

Together, let us give thanks.

A Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

O God, our Provider, you open your hand and lavish good gifts upon us.
So we give you thanks. You create the beauty of the earth
and stock it with abundance to sustain human life.
You give us friends who share the journey of our lives;
family who make us laugh with joy and dry our tears of sorrow;
strangers who minister to our needs with generous kindness.
You knit us into your larger family—the church—
to encourage us in your Way.
You have blessed us with the freedoms of a great nation.
“Thank you” seems insufficient for all your blessings,
yet we say it with all we are as an offering of gratitude
for the many blessings that we name in our hearts before you.
(Please pause to offer a silent prayer of thanksgiving.)
O God, we may have seen our fortunes fall this year.
But we praise you for hiding our treasure in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Not even death can destroy him.
We miss those whose places sit empty at this year’s table,
yet we give you thanks for lending them to us for what time we had.
For all your providence with the feast of life that you set before us,
we give ourselves to you with all we are, in thanks and praise. Amen.
(silent prayer....)

Sung Response

Tune: 843, My Soul Is at Rest (refrain)

My soul is at rest in God alone;
my salvation comes from God.

The Celebration of Good News (responsive)

Thank God, who never lets us go!
Thank God who never leaves us nor forsakes us!
God has been good to me. I won’t complain.
I can’t complain because God cares so much for me.
I thank God and sing because God came down and lifted me up!
God delivers. God saves. God loves forever. Alleluia!

*Sung Response

Tune: 2276

Glory to God in the highest!
Sing glory to God!
Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God’s people on earth!

***The Passing of Christ's Peace**

The peace of Jesus Christ be with you...**and also with you.**
You may turn to your neighbor and share a sign of Christ's peace.

Choral Anthem

Canticle of the Turning
Mountain Shadows' Choir

Rory Cooney

Proclaim God's Word

Gospel Reading

Matthew 6:24-34

(N.T. pg. 6; lg. print pg. 7)

Sermon

Worried? Practice Gratitude Instead

Response

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***Hymn of Affirmation # 175**

Seek Ye First

Respond to God

Invitation to Offering (From "Gratitude Is the Secret" by Barbara Baumgartner)

Gratitude comes through a slow turning away from worry
by intentionally stopping to find something, anything, for which to thank God.
By adopting gratitude, we can discover God's abundance.
It's a funny thing, but gratitude takes math out of the equation.
When gratitude replaces anxiety,
even when we find we have less than we had during our worry days,
gratitude reveals that we have far more than we need.
We are invited to make our offerings as a sign of gratitude to God.

The Offertory

For the Fruit of All Creation

Text/F. Green, Welsh Melody

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Christ, all people here below.
Praise Holy Spirit ever more.
Praise God, triune, whom we adore! Amen.

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

God of grace, it is our delight and our devotion
to give these gifts to you.
All we are and all we have are yours alone.
Accept these joyful offerings as tokens of our abiding love:
use them to bring peace, justice, and comfort to all the world. Amen.

Give Thanks to God

The Sharing of Joys and Concerns

You are invited to speak your prayer requests first on behalf of the wider world; then for those close to you, and for yourself.

The People's Prayer 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.

Go in God's Name

*Hymn #643

Now Thank We All Our God

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Now Thank We All Our God

Rinkart & Cruger

The Worship has ended. The Service begins.