

## **Instructions for the Service over Zoom**

### **Zoom Link**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81378271120?pwd=N3BEMUJGUE54OVNYdlFnaUhfQ2xSdz09>

Meeting ID: 813 7827 1120

Passcode: 656736

### **Sharing Joys and Concerns**

Please use the chat button to convey your celebrations and your prayer concerns so that we can save them to a file and publish them in the prayer list for the congregation on Monday.

### **Recording this Service**

We will record today's service for members and friends who cannot participate in worship at this hour. We will also post an audio of the reading and homily. The service will be ready for viewing beginning on Monday evening and will be available until Saturday evening. The link to view the service will be in the Monday e-mail.

**A reminder to please put your zoom audio setting on mute upon entering the service.  
Thank you!**

**Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost  
Thanksgiving Sunday  
November 19, 2023 10:00A.M.  
Reverend Elva Merry, Bridge Pastor  
David Cavallin, Music Director**

**PRELUDE**

David Cavallin

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Elva Merry

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (Psalm 107, selected verses)

Pastor: O give thanks to God for our Creator is good; God's steadfast love endures forever.

**People: We give thanks for our Redeemer's steadfast love, for God's wonderful works for humankind.**

Pastor: God satisfies the thirsty, and fills the hungry with good things.

**People: The earth has yielded its produce; God, our Comforter has blessed us.**

Pastor: God provides food for all living creatures; our Creator's faithful love endures forever.

**People: Give thanks to the God of heaven and earth, for God's steadfast love endures forever.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN**

*"We Gather Together"*

Blue #561

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**O God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, as we gather in worship this morning, may your presence be so real among us that we may bow in reverence, worship with true praise, pray with sincere thanksgiving, and receive from you all that you desire to impart. Give us such a love for you and your truth that we may truly know you and, by your truth, we may be made free. This we ask in the name of Jesus our Savior, Amen.**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor: May the peace of Christ be with you all!

**People: And also with you.**

*You are invited to pass the peace in whatever way is comfortable for you and your neighbors. Handshakes, waves, peace sign, etc.*

**\*SONG OF PRAISE**

*"This Is the Day"*

Blue #590

**SCRIPTURE**

I Thessalonians 5:12-24

The Message

The Way He Wants You to Live

And now, friends, we ask you to honor those leaders who work so hard for you, who have been given the responsibility of urging and guiding you along in your obedience. Overwhelm them with appreciation and love!

Get along among yourselves, each of you doing your part. Our counsel is that you warn the freeloaders to get a move on. Gently encourage the stragglers, and reach out for the exhausted, pulling them to their feet. Be patient with each person, attentive to individual needs. And be careful that when you get on each other's nerves you don't snap at each other. Look for the best in each other, and always do your best to bring it out.

**\*Please rise in body or Spirit**

Be cheerful no matter what; pray all the time; thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live.

Don't suppress the Spirit, and don't stifle those who have a word from the Master. On the other hand, don't be gullible. Check out everything, and keep only what's good. Throw out anything tainted with evil.

May God himself, the God who makes everything holy and whole, make you holy and whole, put you together—spirit, soul, and body—and keep you fit for the coming of our Master, Jesus Christ. The One who called you is completely dependable. If he said it, he'll do it!

**SERMON**

*“Thank God No Matter What Happens”*

Rev. Elva Merry

**MUSIC FOR MEDITATION**

David Cavallin

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**CALL TO PRAYER**

Pastor: May God be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**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 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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**OFFERTORY INVITATION**

**\*HYMN**

*“For the Fruit of All Creation”*

Black #425

**DEDICATION OF OUR PLEDGES**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Great and gracious God, our hearts are glad and our souls rejoice in the opportunity to share. We lay before you now the fruits of your generosity and our hard work. In thanks for the perfect offering of Jesus Christ, we bring our gifts and ourselves. Show us, we pray, how to combine our efforts to build loving relationships, extend your church, and minister throughout the world in your name, Amen.

**\*HYMN OF DEPARTURE**

*Come, O Thankful People, Come”*

Black #422

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

David Cavallin

*Following worship, please join us in Parish Hall for Coffee Hour, hosted by Judith Speckles, Sharon Tilbe and April West*



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