



Sing to God  
with **gratitude**  
in your hearts.

- Colossians 3:16

## ***Thanksgiving Proclamation***

*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 unequalled 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 theatre of military conflict; while that theatre 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 battle-field; 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, tranquility 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.*

*By the President: Abraham Lincoln*

## Thank You, Lord, For People, Places and Things

### A Service for Thanksgiving

#### Opening Dialogue



C: We gather together to thank you, Lord Jesus,  
For people and places and things that you give.  
Each day, minute, hour, rich blessings you shower.  
Through you and you alone do we work, play and live.

P: *O God, at the time of creation, you made man and woman in your own image, and you have placed special people into our lives who continue to reflect your image in their love, care and support for us.*

**C: Thank you, Lord, for the people who have shared their lives with us.**



C: For father and mother, for sister and brother,  
For friends and for fam'ly—for all we hold dear,  
We praise you and bless you; acclaim and profess you.  
With loved ones you have loved us with holiest cheer.

P: *You promised your chosen people, dear God, a place for them to dwell, a land flowing with milk and honey. By your mighty hand they reached that promised place and made it their home. You have led us to special places, too, places that sustain us, comfort us and refresh us in our faith and life.*

**C Thank you, Lord, for the places that draw us closer to you, to one another and to the world around us.**



C: From offices, households, from churches and schoolyards,  
From all of the spaces you place us, O King,  
We lift up our praises—your presence amazes.  
Through all the world our most heartfelt worship we bring.

*P You knew just what your chosen people needed when you rained down manna and quail from heaven for them to eat. In much the same way, you have rained down the things we need to enrich and sustain our lives.*

**C Thank you, Lord, for the blessing of special things that nourish and protect our bodies, call to mind memorable moments and simply bring us joy.**

C: 

For things that enthrall us, for clothes that are warming,  
For objects to ogle, and food that can fill,  
For ev'ry good pleasure, for all that we treasure,  
We praise your name, O Jesus; pray teach us your will.

## Prayer of the Day

### Thank You, Lord, for people

Epistle Reading ... Colossians 1:3-12

Sermonette ... We the People

Song ... Come, You Thankful People, Come

C: 

Come, you thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.  
All is safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin.  
God, our maker, does provide for our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple, come; raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field, fruit unto his praise to yield.  
Wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.  
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

Thank You, Lord, for places

Old Testament Reading ... Genesis 28:10-19

Sermonette ... The Place To Be

Song ... Christ Is Our Cornerstone



Christ is our cornerstone, on him alone we build;  
With his true saints alone the courts of heav'n are filled.  
On his great love our hopes we place of present grace and joys above.

Oh, then, with hymns of praise these hallowed courts shall ring;  
Our voices we will raise the Three in One to sing  
And thus proclaim in joyful song both loud and long that glorious name.

Thank You, Lord, for things

Gospel Reading ... Matthew 6:25-33

Sermonette ... Things To Think About

Song ... Now Thank We All Our God



Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers' arms has blest us on our way  
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,  
And keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all harm in this world and the next!

## Choir:

### Enter His Gates with Songs of Thanksgiving

Words & Music by Robert C. Clatterbuck (ASCAP)

Director: Randy Cochran

*Enter His gates with songs of thanksgiving;*

*Enter His courts with tributes of praise*

*Give to God blessing and honor;*

*He is our Maker, the Ancient of Days.*

*Make a joyful noise, to the Lord, all you people,*

*Make a joyful noise, to the Lord all the earth.*

*Serve Him with gladness, Come before Him with singing,*

*Know He is God, Our Creator is He!*

*Enter His gates with songs of thanksgiving;*

*Enter His courts with tributes of praise*

*Give to God blessing and honor;*

*He is our Maker, the Ancient of Days.*

*Make a joyful noise, to the Lord, all you people,*

*Make a joyful noise, to the Lord all the earth.*

*We are His people, and the sheep of His pastures,*

*It is He who has made us, and not ourselves.*

*Enter His gates with songs of thanksgiving;*

*Enter His courts with tributes of praise*

*Give to God blessing and honor;*

*He is our Maker, the Ancient of Days.*

*Alleluia!.....Alleluia!*

*Enter His gates with songs of thanksgiving;*

*Enter His courts with tributes of praise*

*Give to God blessing and honor;  
He is our Maker, the Ancient of Days  
Make a joyful noise, to the Lord, all you people,  
Make a joyful noise to the Lord!*

## Prayers

*(Each prayer petition ends with the following response.)*

**L** *Lord, in your mercy,*

**C** **Hear our prayer.**

**Lord's Prayer** *(Contemporary)*

## Benediction

## Closing Song ... Praise To The Lord, The Almighty

**C:** 

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!  
Let all who hear now to his temple draw near,  
Joining in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning  
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.  
Have you not seen all that is needful has been  
Sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;  
Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do  
If with his love he befriend you.

By Mark Zimmermann with original hymnody by Peter Mead. © 2020 by Creative Communications for the Parish, 1564 Fencorp Dr., Fenton, MO 63026. 1-800-325-9414. [www.creativecommunications.com](http://www.creativecommunications.com).

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