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**Bethel United Church of Christ Bulletin**  
**Reign of Christ/Thanksgiving Sunday**  
**November 22, 2020**

*"In the evening, we will be judged on love."*  
John of the Cross 16C

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OPENING MUSIC

*"Fairest Lord Jesus"*

Bethel Praise Team

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Come ye thankful people come!

**Christ holds us accountable as the new church year begins!**

Today we come to put our faith into action and open ourselves to Christ's reign.

**We will take care of the 'least of these'. We offer thanksgiving! Praise be to God!**

### PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

**All Gracious God, you come among us; you work through us; you fill us with awe. We are grateful that you came to us as both human and divine in the person of Jesus who shared our common lot. Let our words and actions bring your reign here on earth. Open our hearts, hands and minds and fill us with compassionate love. Hear our prayers and songs of thanksgiving as we lift them to you. Amen.**

### OPENING HYMN#718

*"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"*

## Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Descant

3. These to thee, our God, we owe, source whence our blessings flow;

1. Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home;  
 2. All the bless-ings of the field, all the stores the gar-dens yield,  
 3. These to thee, our God, we owe, source whence all our bless-ings flow;

for these our souls raise grate-ful vows and praise. Come, then, ye

all is safe-ly gath-ered in, ere the win-ter storms be-gin;  
 all the fruits in full sup-ply, rip-ened 'neath the sum-mer sky,  
 and for these our souls shall raise grate-ful vows and sol-emn praise.

thank-ful peo-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home;

God, our Mak-er, does pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied;  
 all that spring with boun-teous hand scat-ters o'er the smil-ing land,  
 Come, then, thank-ful peo-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home;

come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.

come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.  
all that lib - eral au - tumn pours from its rich o'er - flow - ing stores,  
come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.

### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

**O God, we want to see Christ in the world, but we are overwhelmed by the need. When we look for you among the needy, the hungry, the thirsty, the naked and the prisoner, we are paralyzed by their suffering. We trip over our guilt, do little to help and return to our daily tasks feeling separated from you. Give us courage to stand strong in the face of need, seeing you not only in the least of these, but in our own hearts, encouraging us to step forward in love. Sustain us with your grace to serve in Christ's name. Amen.**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**RESPONSE#305**     *“Lord, Listen to the Children Praying”*



# 305 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your spir-it

in this place; Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing,

send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace. grace!

## OUR SACRED STORIES

Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

Know that the LORD is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

1 Thessalonians 5:18

give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Give Thanks"

Bethel Praise Team

MESSAGE

"A Thankful Life"

Rev. Dr. Steve McDuff

HYMN#715

"Now Thank We All Our God"

# 715 Now Thank We All Our God

1. Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,  
 2. O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
 3. All praise and thanks to God our Father and our Mother,

who wondrous things has done, in whom the world rejoices,  
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,  
 to Christ and to the One who binds us to each other,

who, from our mothers' arms, has blessed us on our way  
 and keep us full of grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
 the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore,

with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.  
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.  
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more.



**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER** (*forgive us our sins...*)  
**RESPONSE#312** "Tri-fold Amen"

312

A-men, a-men, a - men.

MUSIC: Danish

**OFFERING OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

Invitation

Offertory

Response in Praise

*"It Is Well with My Soul"*

arr. Carol Tornquist Chad Willis, piano

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.*

*Praise God all creatures here below.*

*Praise God above the heavenly host.*

*Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Prayer of Dedication

**CLOSING HYMN#714**

*"For the Fruit of All Creation"*

# For the Fruit of All Creation

714

1. For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God;  
2. In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done;  
3. For the har-vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God;

for good gifts to ev - ery na-tion, thanks be to God; for the  
in the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will is done; in our  
for the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God; for the

plow - ing, sow-ing, reap-ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep-ing,  
world-wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair-ing,  
won - ders that as-tound us, for the truths that still con-found us,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe-keep-ing, thanks be to God.  
in the har-vests we are shar-ing, God's will is done.  
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

WORDS: Fred Pratt Green, 1970

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## COMMISSION/ BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*"I Am Thine O Lord"*

arr. Victor Labenske

Chad Willis, piano