

EVENING SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Community Thanksgiving

November 19th, 2023

THE CHURCH GATHERS

Prelude *Beverly Dunlop*
Chiming of the Trinity
Welcome *Rev. Weaver*

Call to Worship (from Psalm 138, CEB)

Leader: I give thanks to you with all my heart, Lord; I sing your praise before all other gods.

People: I will bow toward your holy temple and thank your name for your loyal love and faithfulness, because you have made your name and word greater than everything else.

Leader: On the day I cried out, you answered me. You encouraged me with inner strength.

People: Let the earth's rulers give thanks to you, Lord, when they hear what you say.

Leader: Let them sing about the Lord's ways because the Lord's glory is so great!

People: Even though the Lord is high, he can still see the lowly, but God keeps his distance from the arrogant.

Leader: Whenever I am in deep trouble, you make me live again; you send your power against my enemies' wrath; you save me with your strong hand.

People: The Lord will do all this for my sake. Your faithful love lasts forever, Lord! Don't let go of what your hands have made.

Leader: Compassionate God, you look with favor upon the lowly. Preserve our spirits in the midst of trouble, make known your love through our words and deeds, and bring us to new life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*Hymn of Praise "We Gather Together" # 790

Prayer of Confession
Assurance of Pardon
Special Music

"I Want to Thank You" *arr Reeves*
Brynley Marino

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading **Jeremiah 29:1-7 (Pew Bible OT Pg. 692)**
Anthem "We Need You, Lord" *arr Besig*
Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading **Luke 17:11-19 (Pew Bible NT Pg. 76)**
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Sermon *Rev. Blackwood*

Special Music "All of My Praise" & "I Won't Stay Down"
Pastor Fred Goins, Jr.

Prayers of the People *Rev. Weaver*
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.

Offering *Beverly Dunlop*
*Doxology #815

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn of Sending "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" #797
*Blessing and Charge *Rev. Weaver*
Postlude *Beverly Dunlop*

We are delighted that you are here for this community service of thanksgiving. Our worship leaders are the Rev. Connie Weaver, pastor of Culdee Church; the Rev. Dr. Fred Goins, Jr., pastor of Ingram Branch Presbyterian Church; the Rev. Natasha Blackwood, pastor of West End Presbyterian Church; and Culdee's choir Director, Mrs. Beverly Dunlop; and our Choir. The invitation to participate was extended to many congregations in our community. We welcome you here this evening, and pray you'll be blessed. Please join us for a light reception in the Fellowship Hall immediately after the service.

Non-perishable food items collected this evening will be donated to the Sandhills Food Bank. The offering collected will be given to the Sandhills Moore Coalition for Human Care. If you write a check, please make it payable to Culdee Presbyterian Church, and note that it is for "Sandhills Coalition."



A Short History of Thanksgiving

Our Thanksgiving tradition in the United States has roots in the Protestant Reformation in England. The earliest annual thanksgiving tradition in North

America is documented to have begun in Virginia. A group of English settlers arrived by ship to Charles County in December of 1619. Upon landing by way of the James River, they planned a celebration that was to be “yearly and perpetually kept holy as a day of thanksgiving to Almighty God.” This annual observance is now held at Berkeley Plantation.

The more familiar thanksgiving observance is traced to Puritans who emigrated from England in the 1620’s and 1630’s. A 1621 thanksgiving observance in Plymouth, Massachusetts, was prompted by a good harvest and was celebrated with members of Native American tribes who had helped the settlers through a previous hard winter.

In the ensuing decades, thanksgiving celebrations were common both in the American Colonies and later, in the newly formed United States of America.

In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln declared a national “day of thanksgiving and praise” to God, to be celebrated on the last Thursday of November. It was President Ulysses Grant, in 1870, who signed into law the “Holiday Act” which made Thanksgiving Day a federally appointed holiday.

