

Thanksgiving Eve

November 26, 2025 at 7:00 PM

We welcome you to worship this evening. It is a privilege to have you as our guest.

As you join us today, begin to worship quietly with personal prayer.

Please turn off your cell phone and turn your hearts and minds toward God.

Take a moment and meditate on this as you prepare for worship...

The reason why John records Nicodemus' conversation with Jesus, is that in spite of his achievements, in spite of his prominence in education, politics, culture, and religion, Nicodemus had a great need. He needed to know God. Because he did not know God he was psychologically ill at ease, unhappy, lost, and spiritually blind.

James Montgomery Boice

Prelude

Bless This House

Mae Brae

Dr. Kenneth Dean, Jr. – Director of Music Ministries

Please quietly prepare your hearts for worship during the Prelude.

Welcome

Call to Give Thanks

Romans 12:1-2

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Invocation

Hymn No. 98

Now Thank We All Our God

Nun Danket

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

O 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 ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven—
The one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Psalm of Thanksgiving (Responsive)

Psalm 111

¹ Praise the Lord!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

² Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.

³ **Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.**

⁴ He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and merciful.

⁵ **He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.**

⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

⁷ **The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy;**

⁸ they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

⁹ **He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever.**

Holy and awesome is his name!

¹⁰ **The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.**

(Unison) His praise endures forever!

Hymn

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Townend

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon the cross,
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life;
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything;
No gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ:
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.

The Giving of Our Offerings to God

Offertory

My Tribute

Andre' Crouch
The Aisquith Choir

How can I say thanks for the things you have done for me? Things so undeserved, yet you gave to prove your love for me; the voices of a million angels could not express my gratitude. All that

I am, and ever hope to be, I owe it all to thee. To God be the glory, to God be the glory, to God be the glory for the things he has done. With his blood he has saved me; with his pow'r he has raised me; to God be the glory for the things he has done. Just let me live my life – let it be pleasing, Lord to thee; and if I gain praise, let it go to Calvary.

The Doxology (Hymnal, pg. 731) and Prayer of Dedication

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Scripture Reading

John 3:1-2

Pew Bible pg. 887

¹ Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ² This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him."

Scripture Meditation

"Actions Speak Louder Than Words"

Pastor Ceselsky

Scripture Meditation Outline can be found below.

The Thanksgivings of God's People

(The congregation is encouraged to share how God has blessed during this past year)

Hymn No. 254

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

Martyrdom

Alas! and did my Savior bleed, And did my Sovereign die?
Would He devote that sacred Head For such a worm as I?

Was it for crimes that I have done He groaned up-on the tree?
Amazing pit-y! Grace un-known! And love be-yond degree!

Well might the sun in dark-ness hide, And shut his glories in,
When Christ, the great Creator died For man the creature's sin.

Thus might I hide my blushing face While His dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, And melt mine eyes to tears.

But drops of grief can ne'er re-pay The debt of love I owe:
Here, Lord, I give my-self a-way-- 'Tis all that I can do.

Benediction and Three-Fold Amen (Hymnal, pg. 740)

Danish

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Postlude

Come Thou Fount

Robert Robinson

Please be seated and quietly reflect upon the Lord's grace during the Postlude.

Announcements

Our Thanksgiving offering this year is going to Mission Possible, a men's homeless shelter and ministry in Baltimore City.

The sign up book for Christmas poinsettias is on the table in the narthex. The cost is \$10.00 this year. The deadline is SUNDAY, December 7th. Put the money in a pink envelope and write your name and "Flowers" on the outside.

We will be holding a Cookie Exchange on Sunday December 14 to raise money for the roof project. All who are able to bring at least 3 dozen or more cookies (preferably homemade) are asked to bring them in the morning. After worship anyone may purchase a tin of the cookies of your choice for \$10 each. It's a great way to support the church and to get a variety of cookies for Christmas.

We will have a Christmas Eve service at 7:00 PM on Sunday, December 24th.

Scripture Meditation Notes

Date: November 26, 2025

Text: John 3:1-2

Meditation Title: "Actions Speak Louder Than Words"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: We must live a life of Thanks.

Point 1: We must give Thanks to the Lord for Jesus.

Point 2: We must give Thanks to the Lord for Jesus' teaching.

Point 3: We must give Thanks to the Lord for Jesus' works.