



*"Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One..."
("Give Thanks" Glory to God, Hymn #647)*

**November 19, 2023
Thanksgiving Sunday**

Ministers
Pastor
Director of Faith Formation Ministries
Director of Music
Organist/Accompanist
Director of Preschool
Maintenance Superintendent

All the People of Covenant
Dr. Kyle Allen
Jewel Aagaard
Richard Rudolph
Ronn Lowe
Anne Craig
Mark Overacker

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Loving God, Loving People, Making Disciples

Gathering

**Please stand in body or in spirit*

*Chiming of the Hour and Presentation of the Word

Prelude Variations on "The Ash Grove"
Christine Schulz

Welcome and Covenant Life

Introit "Raise the Song of Harvest Home"
Mary McDonald
Sanctuary Choir; Ruth Rieger, piano; Ronn Lowe, organ

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 111)

One: Praise the Lord!
All: I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart.
One: Great are the works of the Lord,
All: studied by all who delight in them.
One: The Lord is gracious and merciful;
All: all his precepts are trustworthy.
One: With grateful and joyful hearts,
All: let his praise endure forever!

*Hymn of Praise, #643 "Now Thank We All Our God"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*unison and silent prayers*)

Holy God, while we have come into your presence with praise and thanksgiving, we confess that often we have failed to be an obedient church: we have not done your will; we have broken your law; we have rebelled against your love; we have not loved our neighbors; we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord...

(silent prayers may be offered)

Declaration of Forgiveness

Response, #648 "Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"
Children are invited to come forward as we sing.

Teaching

Time with Our Children Jewel Aagaard
Director of Faith Formation Ministries

***Passing of the Peace** (*Greet one another, "Peace be with you."*)

Children ages 4 – 11 may leave for Children's Worship in the Green Room and will return during the last hymn.

Prayer for Illumination Bob Merritt

Psalm Reading Psalm 105:1-6 (Pew Bible, OT p. 519)

Gospel Reading

Matthew 6:11 (Pew Bible, NT p. 5)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Give Thanks"

Dr. Kyle Allen

***Affirmation of Faith**, The Apostles' Creed; Traditional (*in unison*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen**

Anthem

"Count Your Blessings"
Mark Hayes

Sanctuary Choir; Ruth Rieger, piano; Ronn Lowe, organ

Nurturing

Celebration of Giving+

Offertory

"Goodness of God"
Jenn Johnson

Emily Hart, soloist; Delilah Rudolph, piano

***Doxology**, #336 (verse 1)

"We Gather Together"

**We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens his will to make known;
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.**

Prayers of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and the Lord's Prayer

Reaching

***Charge and Benediction**

"A Parting Blessing"
J. Jerome Williams, Don Gray

The Good News Quartet

***Hymn of Devotion**, #644

"Give Thanks, O Christian People"

Trinity Chimes

Our Trinity Chimes played before the postlude provide the opportunity to sit and enjoy the end of our service with music, or to exit quietly as our Livestream continues for this part of worship.

Postlude

"Toccata for Harvest"
Martin Setchell



Welcome! We are blessed to have you join our worship today, and we hope to keep seeing you! More information about Covenant is available on our website at covenantroanoke.org and you can also follow us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter. We would love to get to know you better, and a card is available in the pew before you to begin this journey together.

Greetings, Parents! Children are always welcome in our worship services. If you so choose, a professionally staffed nursery is available for children ages 3 and younger downstairs. Please ask an usher for assistance. **We also have a Parents Room** just outside the Sanctuary, with a changing table and rocking chairs. **Children's bulletins and activity bags are available** on the table in Heritage Hall. **We offer Children's Worship** during the second half of the service for children ages 4 to 11.

We are pleased to welcome pianist Ruth Rieger to our worship today!
Special thanks to Emily Hart and Delilah Rudolph, and The Good News Quartet (Jewel Aagaard, Larry & Linda Kellogg, Ray Zubler).

Cookies and lemonade await you! After worship, all are welcome to gather in Heritage Hall (the entrance area) to visit with church members and guests. Thank you to Clarke Grasty and Pranav Singh for hosting.

*The flowers in the chancel today are given by John and Meg Munton
to the glory of God and to honor all Veterans
with thanksgiving and grateful hearts.*

Greeter: Sharon Nanz **Ushers:** Covenant Youth
Liturgist: Bob Merritt
Elder of the Month: Melissa Cranwell
Deacon of the Month: Ellen Jones
Assistant Deacon of the Month: Clarke Grasty
Sound: Roger Dickenson **Video/Livestream:** Jena Bircher, Pranav Singh



In Our Prayers . . . Church Members: Audrey Bashlor, Christine Beck, Tricia Cronise, Mary Jane Fisher, Lynnmarie Hancock, Jerry Lawson, Lindsey Nanz, Ann Cecil Renick, Carol Ryan, June and Forrest Smith, Roger Tims, Jo Wilson, caregivers, military service members and families

Family & Friends: Rob Adcox, Rob Ahlers, Kenneth Benner, William "Buzz" Caddell (Anne Currin's brother), Mike Cummings, Patrick Dooley, Cesia Enriquez, Peggy Evans, Heather Ford, Tyler and Rochelle Holm, the people of Malawi, Jim McGill, Becky Meisner, Mike Overacker, Bob & Betty Sizemore, Joseph "Joe" Wallace, Daniel Woodbury, Religious violence against Christians in northeast India

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