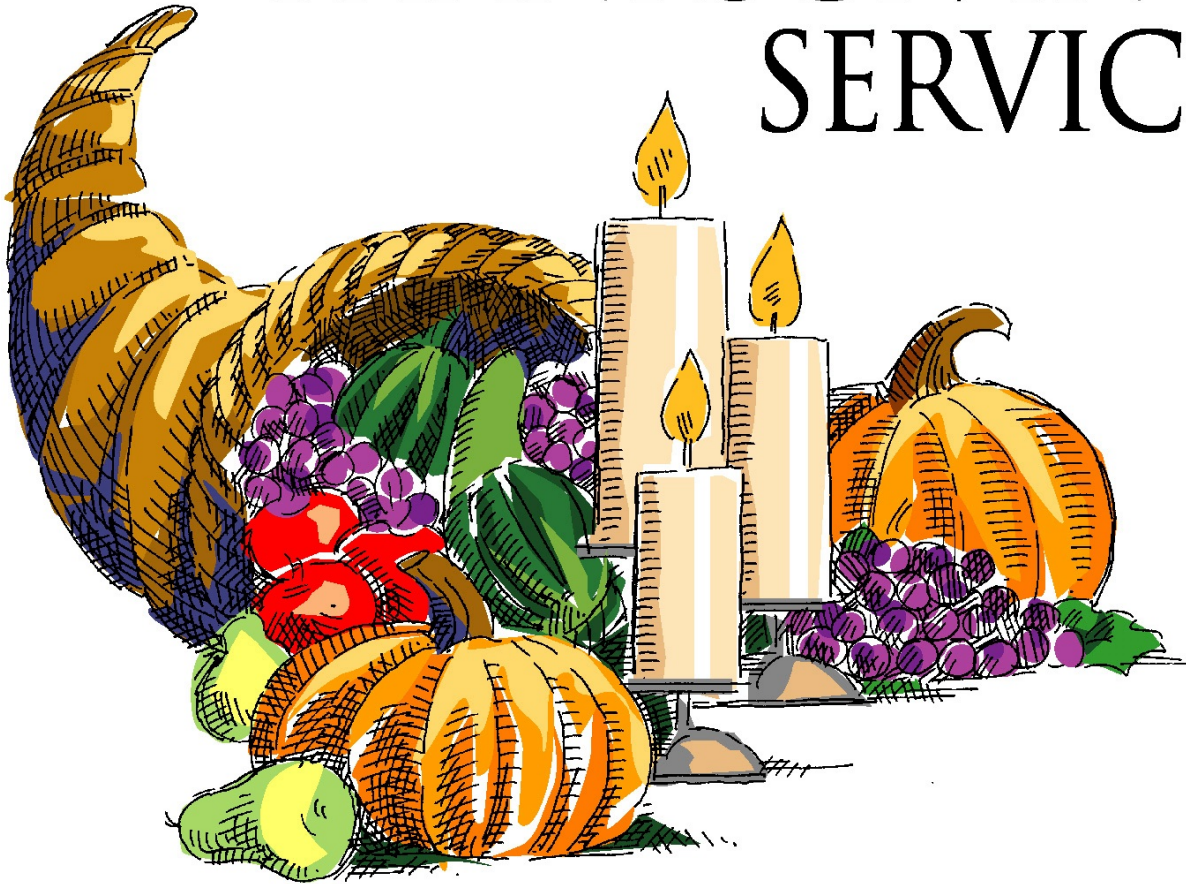


# THANKSGIVING SERVICE



## Second Presbyterian Church

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## THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

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November 23, 2011

7:00 P.M.

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We welcome all on this Thanksgiving Eve as we join in expressing gratitude to God. Let us be mindful that every good and perfect gift we have has come from the hand of God. “O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!” (Psalm 118:1, NRSV)

### PRELUDE

### GREETING

### CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Psalm 95:1-3,7)*

L: O come, let us sing to the Lord;

**P: Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

L: Let us come into God’s presence with thanksgiving;

**P: Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord with songs of praise!**

L: For the Lord is a great God,

**P: A great King above all gods.**

L: For the Lord is our God,

**P: And we are the people of God’s pasture, and the sheep of his hand.**

L: Let us worship God with thanksgiving!

### \*HYMN

“We Gather Together”

PH 559

### PRAYER OF ADORATION

**Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that with thankful hearts we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love, joy, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### SCRIPTURE LESSONS

New Testament: Luke 17:11-19

*Pew Bible p. 903*

Old Testament: Deuteronomy 8:6-18

*Pew Bible p. 159*

### \*HYMN

“Now Thank We All Our God”

PH 555

### MEDITATION

“A Thanksgiving Trigger”

## LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

L: God, whose love endures forever, whose faithfulness is to all generations, we turn to you as your grateful people.

**P: Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

L: We give thanks for the gifts of this past year, for all that has given us life, for all that has brought joy, for all sources of comfort, healing and peace.

**P: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever.**

L: We remember those who have shown us your love, whose faces reflect your image, whose actions have given us a glimpse of your work among us.

**P: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever.**

L: We lift up those who have shown forgiveness, whose words have encouraged, whose strength has made us stronger, whose service has inspired us to serve others.

**P: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever.**

L: We celebrate the events in our lives and in our world in which justice has conquered oppression, goodness has defeated evil, love has won over hate.

**P: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever.**

L: We give thanks for all of the ways your divine hand moves among us, ruling over rulers, bringing peace and restoring creation, we join our voices with the faithful throughout the centuries.

**P: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever.**

L: Gracious God, we know that your gifts are not yet complete, that many of us still feel your steadfast love is distant. Grant us the wisdom to know that our best appreciation for your gifts comes in sharing them with others, that your love is to be shared visibly, your justice meant to be lived. As we grow in our thanksgiving, may we come to live the prayer our Lord taught:

P: The Lord's Prayer (*use "debts"*)

## \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

L: Remember the Lord our God, who has given us many good gifts.

**P: We go now with the grace of God, to share God's many gifts with all the world.**

L: Take care to remember God has given us these gifts.

**P: We go now with thankful hearts.**

L: May the blessing of God Almighty – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit – remain with you always.

**P: We go forth in joyous thanksgiving, living the good news of Jesus Christ every day and everywhere.**

## \*POSTLUDE

\* Congregation please stand, if able

PH = Presbyterian Hymnal (blue) / CB = Celebration Hymnal (maroon)

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Cornucopia, a Greek word meaning “horn of plenty,” has origins in Greek mythology. But the cornucopia became a religious symbol and was even stamped on Jewish coins. Overflowing horns, now common as Thanksgiving centerpieces, came to symbolize abundance and blessings.

