

Worship on the Lord's Day

Presbyterian Church of Radford

Thanksgiving

November 22nd, 2020

Announcement: There will be a congregational meeting on November 29th after outdoor worship to elect the class of 2023 elders. If we get rained out, then we will meet on Zoom at 11:45am using the following information:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89364933553?pwd=Ry9oM294T0xQVVA2WXlrWVB6MXk0QT09>

Meeting ID: 893 6493 3553

Passcode: 332059

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE - Hudson Crowe

WELCOME

OPENING SENTENCES

Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name.

Make known God's deeds among the peoples!

God blesses us with gifts of love:

with food and clothing, home and family.

God blesses us with daily work:

and all we need from day to day.

God protects us in time of danger:

and guards us from every evil.

God calls us into covenant relationship:

**and forms us into one community,
the Church of Jesus Christ in this place.**

Therefore, shall we offer thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

O Lord our God, we will give thanks to you forever.

HYMN No. 336 - We Gather Together - Alex Lyons
(lyrics & music included at the end of the bulletin)

CONFESSION

Call to Confession

Great, indeed, is the faithfulness of God, and yet our hearts are not so reliable. We wander. We argue. We forget. We divide ourselves with anger and bitterness and greed. Trusting in the One whose mercy is from everlasting to everlasting, let us confess our sins, to God, and also, to each other. Let us pray:

Confession

God of Grace, you have gifted us with a world of abundance, a land of plenty, a country where all can have enough. We come before you this day to thank you for this prosperity and to repent from our apparent inability to share this wealth.

Righteous God, you hear the cry of the poor. You listen to those who do without while so many spend recklessly. We declare our own complicity in systems that sustain some of us, while forsaking many others. And we come before you to seek your forgiveness, even as we pray for your justice.

Be with us this day, Lord. Hear our prayers. Touch our hearts that we may be faithful witnesses and effective voices for justice. God of mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Even when our cups run dry, God's grace overflows. Even when our plates are empty, God's generosity overflows. And even when our hearts feel barren, God's love overflows. Friends, we have been called and claimed by an extravagant God. Through the abundance of God's grace and the power of God's love, our sins have been forgiven. Alleluia! Amen

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Almighty God, give us ears to hear your story in these words of Scripture. Give us eyes to see your story in the faces of those that surround us. And give us faith enough, that by your grace, we might serve you, through Christ, our Lord, Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING - Deuteronomy 8:7-18

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - Georgeanne Lavery

HYMN No. 367 - Come Ye Thankful People, Come - Alex Lyons

EPISTLE READING - 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON - "Abundance" - Rev. Emily Rhodes Hunter

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

HYMN No. 643 - Now Thank We All Our God - Alex Lyons

OFFERING

Call to Offering

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world and those who live in it.

Let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth.

Doxology

Prayer Over Offering

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of all blessings,
source of all life,
giver of all grace:

We thank you for the gift of life:
for the breath
that sustains life,
for the food of this earth
that nurtures life,
for the love of family and friends

without which there would be no life.

We thank you for the mystery of creation:
for the beauty
that the eye can see,
for the joy
that the ear may hear,
for the unknown
that we cannot behold filling the universe with wonder,
for the expanse of space
that draws us beyond the definitions of our selves.

We thank you for setting us in communities:
for families
who nurture our becoming,
for friends
who love us by choice,
for companions at work,
who share our burdens and daily tasks,
for strangers
who welcome us into their midst,
for people from other lands
who call us to grow in understanding,
for children
who lighten our moments with delight,
for our church family,
who encourage us to live lives of faithful service.

We thank you for this day:
for life
and one more day to love,
for opportunity
and one more day to work for justice and peace,
for neighbors
and one more person to bless
and by whom be blessed,
for your grace
and one more experience of your presence,
for your promise:
to be with us,
to be our God,

and to give salvation.

For these, and all blessings,
we give you thanks, eternal, loving God,
for we pray in the name of Jesus the Christ,
who taught us to pray, saying:

***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.***

GO IN GOD'S NAME

BLESSING AND CHARGE

POSTLUDE - Hudson Crowe

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We Gather Together 336

1 We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;
 2 Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,
 3 We all do ex - tol thee, thou lead - er tri - um - phant,

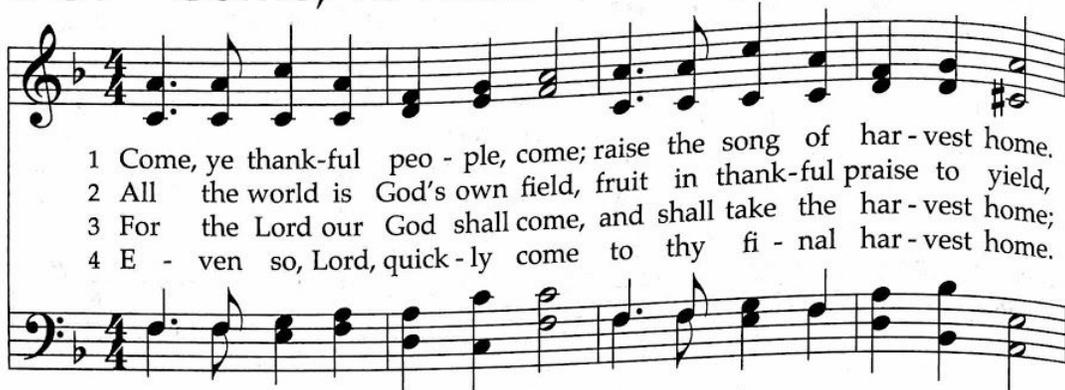
he chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known;
 or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing his king - dom di - vine;
 and pray that thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.

the wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing.
 so from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning;
 Let thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion;

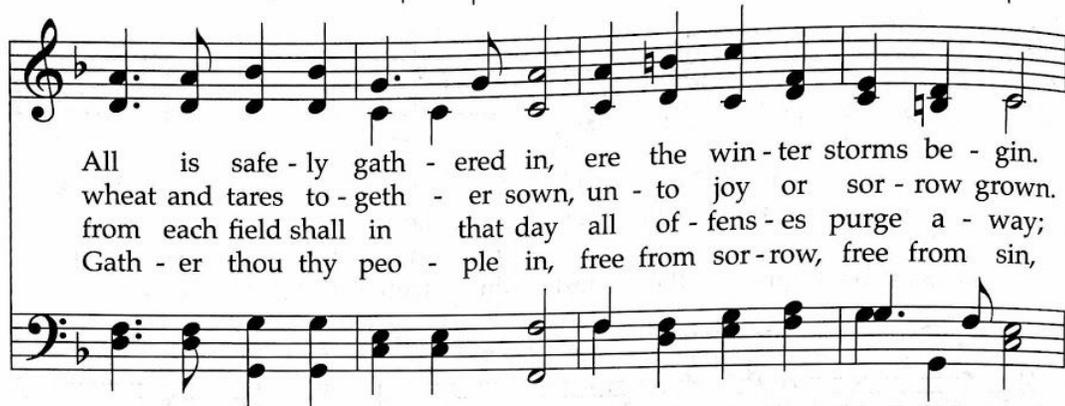
Sing prais - es to his name; he for - gets not his own.
 thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glo - ry be thine!
 thy name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

First published among songs celebrating the end of Spanish control of the Netherlands, this text's blend of patriotism and piety has made it popular at (often ecumenical) Thanksgiving Day services. The tune is named for the Viennese arranger whose male chorus popularized it.

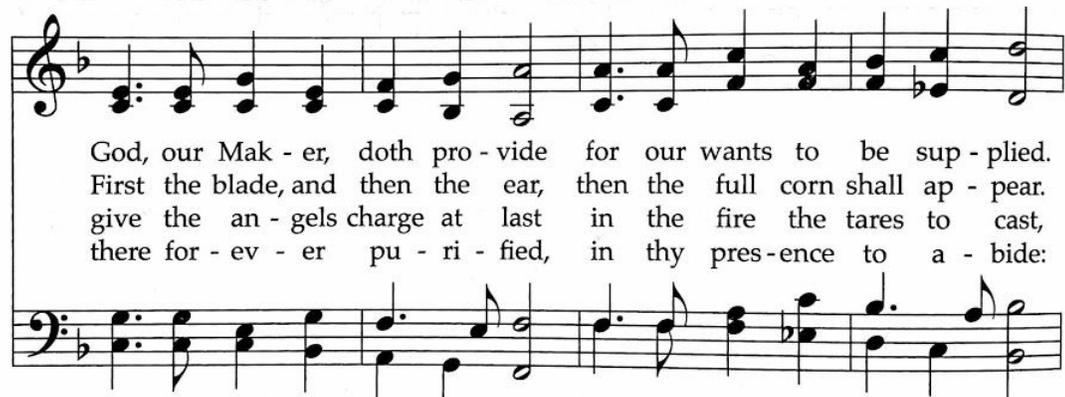
367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



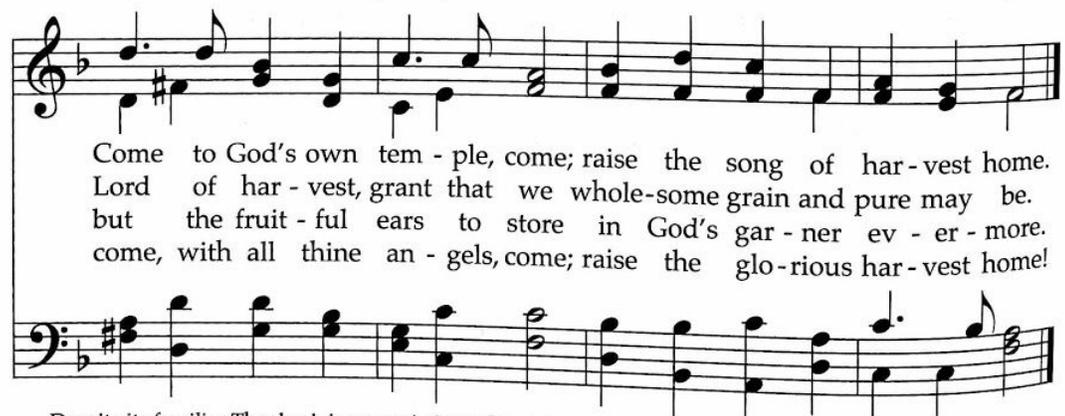
1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit in thank-ful praise to yield,
 3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the har - vest home;
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All is safe - ly gath - ered in, ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
 wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
 from each field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
 Gath - er thou thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our Mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
 give the an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 there for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy pres - ence to a - bide:



Come to God's own tem - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit - ful ears to store in God's gar - ner ev - er - more.
 come, with all thine an - gels, come; raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

Despite its familiar Thanksgiving associations, the real concern of this text is to recall the harvest imagery Jesus used to describe the fulfillment of God's sovereignty. The tune name commemorates the royal chapel where the composer was organist for forty-seven years.

THANKSGIVING

643 Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voic - es,
 2 O may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in high - est heav - en,

who won-drous things hath done, in whom this world re - joic - es;
 with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;
 to Fa - ther and to Son and Spir - it now be giv - en:

who, from our moth-ers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when per-plexed,
 the one e - ter - nal God, whom heaven and earth a - dore,

with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 the God who was, and is, and shall be ev - er - more.

Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.