



Thanksgiving

celebration service

BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

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## **Gathering Hymn** *Give Thanks*

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son

And now let the weak say, "We are strong;" let the poor say, "We are rich

Because of what the Lord has done for us!"

And now let the weak say, "We are strong;" let the poor say, "We are rich

Because of what the Lord has done for us!"

Give thanks. Give thanks

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## **Welcome, Announcements & Land Acknowledgement**

*Associate Pastor, Danielle Merseles*

## **Greetings Among Our Family**

### **Scripture Reading** [Psalm 117](#)

*Leader:* This is the word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

## **Silent Listening to God**

### **Prayer of Invocation** *Trinity Song*

*Holy Father Son and Spirit*

*Holy Communion Three in One*

Come with Your peace with Your invitation

Bind us together in holy love

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## **Responsive Litany of Thanksgiving**

*Jane Gunningham and Nina Williams*

Triune God,

*Creator, Savior, and Guide*

we come before you

*as many parts of a single body.*

We are one people that you are gathering

*from every tribe, every nation, every language;*

some indigenous—

*peoples of the land;*

some refugees, immigrants, pilgrims—

*people on the move;*

some hosts, some guests, some both;

*all of us searching for an eternal place where we can belong.*

Creator, forgive us.

*The earth is yours and everything that is in it.*

But we forget.

*In our arrogance we think we own it.*

In our greed we think we can steal it.

*In our ignorance we worship it.*

In our thoughtlessness we destroy it.

*We forget that you created the earth to bring praise and joy to you.*

That you gave it as a gift,

*for us to steward,*

for us to enjoy,

*for us to see more clearly your beauty and your majesty.*

Jesus, save us.

*We wait for your kingdom.*

We long for your throne.

*We hunger for your reconciliation,*

for that day where people from every tribe and every tongue  
*will gather around you and sing your praises.*

Holy Spirit, teach us.

*Help us to remember*

that the body is made up of many parts,  
*each one unique and every one necessary.*

Teach us to embrace the discomfort that comes from our diversity  
*and to celebrate the fact that we are unified, not through our sameness,*  
but through the blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

*Triune God, we love you.*

Your creation is beautiful.

*Your salvation is merciful.*

And your wisdom is beyond compare.

*As the Seneca Nation have prayed for hundreds of years,*  
we pray now in Jesus' name:

*May our grief be lifted,*

Our hearts be open,

*Our stomachs be full,*

Our bones be braced,

*And our will be calmed.*

It is spoken, it is beautiful.

*Amen\**

**Offering** Queen Anne Good Neighbor Collection

**Hymn** *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful

In the Lord I will rejoice

Look to God; do not be afraid

Lift up your voices; the Lord is near

Lift up your voices; the Lord is near

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**Homily**

*Senior Pastor, Doug Kelly*

**Gratitudes**

**Closing Hymn** *Now Thank We All Our God*

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices  
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices  
Who, from our mothers' 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 God's grace, and guide us when perplexed  
And free us from all ills in this world and the next

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven  
To Father and to Son and Spirit now be given  
The one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore  
The God who was, and is, and shall be evermore

**Benediction**

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**Leading Worship** Doug Kelly, Danielle Merseles, Jane Gunningham & Nina Williams  
**Ministers** You, who are touched by God's grace, being healed by God's love  
**Date** November 24, 2022

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\*Sources: adapted from "A Prayer of Indigenous Peoples, Refugees, Immigrants, and Pilgrims," written by Mark Charles and "A Seneca Nation Thanksgiving Prayer," written by Molly Larkin.