

*North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church*



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**A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING**  
**November 24, 2021 – 6:30pm**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

*Adapted from Psalm 126*

**One:** When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,  
then were we like those who dream.

**Many:** **Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

**One:** Then they said among the nations,  
“The LORD has done great things for them.”

**Many:** **The LORD has done great things for us,  
and we are glad indeed.**

**One:** Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses of the Negev.

**Many:** **Those who sowed with tears  
will reap with songs of joy.  
Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves..**

**One:** Faithful God,  
Let the seeds of justice which we have sown in tears,  
grow and increase in your sight.  
May we reap in joy the harvest for which we patiently hope;  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All:** **Amen.**

**Hymn (#336)**

*We Gather Together*

**Scripture Lesson**

Joel 2:21-27

*(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Many: Thanks be to God.)*

**Meditation**

You Shall

**Hymn (#367)**

*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

## Litany of Thanksgiving

One: Give thanks to the Lord who is good.

**Many: God's love is everlasting.**

One: Come, let us praise God joyfully.

**Many: Let us come to God with thanksgiving.**

One: For the good world; for things great and small, beautiful and awesome; for seen and unseen splendors; thank you, God.

**Many: For human life; for talking and moving and thinking together; for common hopes and hardships shared from birth until our dying; thank you, God.**

One: For work to do and for the strength to work; for the comradeship of labor; for exchanges of good humor and encouragement; thank you, God.

**Many: For marriage; for the mystery and joy of flesh made one; for mutual forgiveness and burdens shared; for secrets kept in love; thank you, God.**

One: For family; for living together and eating together; for family amusements and family pleasures; thank you, God.

**Many: For children; for their energy and curiosity; for their brave play and startling frankness; for their sudden sympathies; thank you, God.**

One: For the young; for their high hopes; for their irreverence toward worn-out values; for their search for freedom; for their solemn vows; thank you, God.

**Many: For growing up and growing old; for wisdom deepened by experience; for rest in leisure; and for time made precious by its passing; thank you, God.**

One: For friends and loved ones; for caring companions who walk with us through thick and thin; for those who believe in us when we cannot believe in ourselves and believe for us when we cannot believe; thank you, God.

**Many: For your help in times of doubt and sorrow; for healing our diseases or comforting our hurts; for preserving us in temptation and danger; thank you, God.**

One: For the church into which we have been called; for the Good News we receive by Word and Sacrament; for our life together in the Lord; we praise you, God.

**Many:** For your Holy Spirit; who guides our steps and brings us gifts of faith and love; who prays in us and prompts our grateful worship; we praise you, God.

**One:** Above all, O God, for your Son Jesus Christ, who lived and died and lives again for our salvation; for our hope in him; and for the joy of serving him.

**All:** We thank and praise you, Eternal God, for all your goodness to us.

**One:** Give thanks to the Lord, who is good.

**All:** God's love is everlasting!

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Hymn (#643)**

*Now Thank We All Our God*

**\*Charge and Benediction**

\*Please rise, in body or spirit.

**Postlude**

## 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;

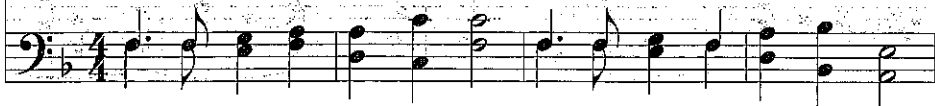
Sing prais - es to his name; he for - gets not his own.  
 thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glo - ry be thine!  
 thy name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

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.



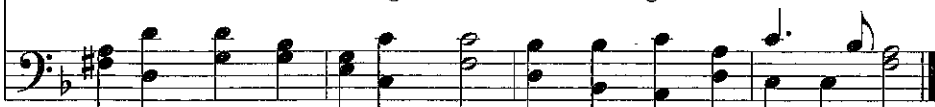
All is safe-ly gath-ered in, ere the win-ter storms be-gin.  
 wheat and tares to-geth-er sown, un-to joy or sor-row grown.  
 from each field shall in that day all of-fen-s-es purge a-way;  
 Gath-er thou thy peo-ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin,



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!



## 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 first appeared in print in 1648, and have since the mid-17th century.