

**Welcome to worship at  
New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Thanksgiving Eve  
November 26, 2025**



Every gathering for worship has elements of thanksgiving. When we are nourished with God's bounty in holy communion, when we partake of Jesus' word that gives life to the world, and even when two or three of us simply join our hearts in prayer to make our requests known to God, we do so "with thanksgiving." Let us give thanks to God, who is good and whose mercy endures forever.

**Nicole Young, seminarian minister  
Patricia Nyce, director of music ministry**

**We love our neighbors with healing and feeding them!**

**All worship can be viewed online at  
[newhanoverlutheran.org](http://newhanoverlutheran.org)**

**[facebook.com/NewHanoverLutheranChurch](https://www.facebook.com/NewHanoverLutheranChurch)  
and on YouTube.**

**May your worship experience strengthen you  
with God's love and grace.**

### **Welcome Statement**

You are always welcome at The New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church. We are a growing community of believers in Jesus Christ, rooted in God's love and guided by Christ's example. We strive to reach out with compassion, offering a place where you can grow in faith, experience God's grace and feel safe and celebrated. At The New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church, we want you to gather with us at our table. Rooted in our Lutheran faith and belief that we are all children of God and made in God's image, we welcome all people with dignity and love.

In Romans 15:7, Paul writes, "Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."

By this belief, we are committed to intentionally following Jesus' example of unconditional hospitality, love and justice. Here, you are not only included, you are respected. We affirm and value people of all races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, cultures, ages, abilities, body sizes, relationship statuses and economic or immigration statuses. We are committed to the ongoing work toward anti-racism, inclusion, and equity in all we do.

You are invited to fully participate in our worship, sacraments, leadership positions, gatherings, and ministries. In our identities, we are united by the common faith we hold, and recognize we each offer unique gifts and perspectives. We believe that this transforms lives and deepens the faith of our community. Christ's door is open to all, so is ours.

Prelude

Welcome

*Please rise as you are able.*

Gathering Hymn *We Gather Together*

Adrianus Valerius, 1626  
trans. Theodore Baker, 1894

KREMSER  
12 11 12 11

Neder-lantsch Gedenck-Clank, 1626  
harm. Eduard Kremser, 1877

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.  
 the Lord was at our side— the glo - ry be Thine!  
 Thy name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

# Hymn of Praise



## Litany of Thanksgiving

For the good gifts of creation we give you thanks.

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty!**

For minds that can think and explore and grow, for bodies that can sense and leap and rest, for hearts that can share and feel and love, for voices that can encourage and sing and praise,

**We offer up our hearty thanks.**

For the good gift of salvation we give you thanks.

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty!**

For promises made and promises kept to Adam and Eve, Abraham and Sarah, Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary and Joseph; for that holy birth in Bethlehem's stall; for the life of teaching, preaching and healing; for the death suffered once to conquer death; for the promise of resurrection and life, delivered when Christ rose from death,

**We offer up our hearty thanks.**

For the good gift of your presence among us we give you thanks.

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty!**

For the love that fills our hearts and spills out to family and friends; for the fellowship that binds us to our family of faith; for the hope and joy that give our lives meaning and direction; for the simple gifts of smiles and laughs, songs and hugs that add to life the special glimmer of joy,

**We offer up our hearty thanks. Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

First Reading

Philippians 4:4-9

Kady Singley

A reading from the book of Philippians

*Paul urges the Christians at Philippi to rejoice, to be thankful, and to dwell on everything worthy of praise.*

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup> As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

Here ends the reading.

Psalm Reading

Psalm 100

Nikki Young

*Enter God's gates with thanksgiving. (Ps. 100:4)*

<sup>1</sup> Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands!

<sup>2</sup> Serve the Lord with gladness;  
come into God's presence with a song.

<sup>3</sup> **Know that the Lord is God, our maker to whom we belong;  
we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.**

<sup>4</sup> Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving  
and the courts with praise;  
give thanks and bless God's holy name.

<sup>5</sup> **Good indeed is the Lord, whose steadfast love is everlasting,  
whose faithfulness endures from age to age.**

*Please rise as you are able.*

## Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

John 6:25-35

Nikki Young

The holy gospel according to John

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The day after he multiplies bread to feed five thousand people, Jesus is pursued by the crowds clamoring for more bread.*

*Recalling the image of manna in the wilderness, Jesus promises to provide the true bread from heaven that will never fail. Jesus himself is that bread of life.*

<sup>25</sup> When [the disciples] found [Jesus] on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” <sup>26</sup> Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate your fill of the loaves.

<sup>27</sup> Do not work for the food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” <sup>28</sup> Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” <sup>29</sup> Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” <sup>30</sup> So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us, then, so that we may see it and believe you?

What work are you performing?” <sup>31</sup> Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’ ” <sup>32</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup> For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” <sup>34</sup> They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

<sup>35</sup> Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

Message

Nikki Young

*A moment of silence for reflection*

*Please rise as you are able.*

Apostles' Creed

Nikki Young

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried:  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Nikki Young

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord's Prayer

Nikki Young

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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 trespasses,  
    as we forgive those  
    who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
    and the power, and the glory,  
    forever and ever. Amen.**

Peace

Nikki Young

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Please share a sign of peace with your neighbors.

*The people give a sign of peace to each other.*

*Please be seated.*

Offertory

Choir Anthem

*We Will Give Thanks*

Community Choir

*"We Will Give Thanks" Text and music by Mark Patterson. © 1999 Lorenz Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Streamed with permission under One License #A-701229.*

Doxology

*We Plow the Fields and Scatter*

ELW #681

vs .3

*The offering is brought forward for a blessing.*

Announcements

*Please rise as you are able.*

Sending Hymn *For the Fruit of All Creation*

ELW #679

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Go get'em!!!

Postlude     *Postlude on “St. George’s Windsor”* Jason D. Payne  
Patricia Nyce, organ

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## Announcements

### Today

**We welcome choristers** from Grace Lutheran and Emmanuel Lutheran churches this evening to our own Chancel choir to join in singing the choral anthem.

**Serving Today** Bill Allen, head usher; Yvonne Peto, usher; Kady Singly, lector; Richard Garcia, acolyte

**Serving Sunday** Barbara Repa, head usher; Zach Quigley, usher; Barbara Noecker, lector; Carolyn Springer, children’s sermon; Noah Waltermeyer, acolyte

**Altar Guild** members serving this month: Jean Moser, Jane Johnson, Jo Anne Wirt and Yvonne Peto

### Upcoming Events

**Blue Christmas Service Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2:00 PM, at St. Luke’s Obelisk** Sometimes the holiday season is just too much joy for how we are feeling. Maybe life is too much, or you are missing a loved one and are not feeling as happy as normal. Maybe you want to slow down from the hustle of the days leading up to Christmas and reflect. The Blue Christmas Service gives you time to reflect and meditate. See Nikki Young with any questions.

## Prayer Requests

**Military:** Shawn Dietz, Kevin Dugan, Jason Bernhard, Craig Geiser, Patrick Mathias, Steven Kane, William Zearfoss, Will Wilson V, Milton Jack Repa, Kyle Woods, Danny Foust

Peace for violence in our area and nationally

**Grieving:** family and friends of Sarah Bowman and Gerald Eisenhart

Keeley Staples	Logan Conley	Katy Mahon-Miller
Luann Hanley	Carol Estes	William Trotter
Kathy Kane	Maxwell Girard	Pat Fryer
Jean Renninger	Pr. Kork Moyer	Julia Hauck
Tony Mancini	Raul Castro	Amy LeVan
Jeffrey Kunsch	Wilma Lahr	Melissa
Mary Lou	Doug Weaver	Joan Wagner
Robert Ganovsky	Dorothy Bingaman	Emily Ocelus
Eric & Wendy Hess	Sue Care	Deb Matthews
Marceline	Anne Eshleman	Daniel Johnson
Chris Fatzinger	Hank Droneberg	Pena family
Kim Frain	Jen Perez	Frank D.
Pam Helfrich	Barb & Tom Faust	Andy Van Dyke
Janet	Pam Abbott	Holli Muffler
Louise Karns	Pr. Jennifer Phelps	Verdie Smith
Helen Foulke	Carla Hausmann	Joan Price
Ralph Borneman	Lucille Powell	Joan Scheffey
Arnold Amundsen	Chuck Beck	Rich Freed
Joe	Joe	Casey Flack
Penny Frymoyer	Denton Quick	David Helfrich, Sr.
Tara Hauck	Patricia Kemp	Ron Seasholtz
Penny Garber	Hazel LeVan	Lynn Amundsen
David Gottshall	Paul Knauer	Suzanne Dodge
Dave Pollock	Julia Ghazi	Ray Feick
Jennifer, Brendt, Declan & Conor Budnick		Patty Houseal
Steve Morriss	Vicki Mutter	Carol Feick
Josephine Heck	Alice Nester	Debbie Tischendorf
John Sander, Candis Peto, Yvonne Peto		
Dennis and Sandy Rothermel		

## **The New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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Office Hours: Mon. – Fri., 9 AM – 2 PM

**Call 610-326-1335 for an appointment**

### **Contact Information**

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## We Plow the Fields and Scatter



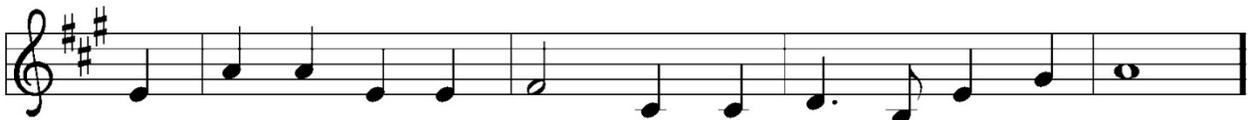
1 We plow the fields and scat - ter the good seed on the land,  
2 You on - ly are the mak - er of all things near and far.  
3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,



but it is fed and wa - tered by God's al - might - y hand,  
You paint the way - side flow - er, you light the eve - ning star.  
the seed - time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.



who sends the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
The winds and waves o - bey you, by you the birds are fed;  
No gifts have we to of - fer for all your love im - parts,



the breez - es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh - ing rain.  
much more to us, your chil - dren, you give our dai - ly bread.  
but what you most would trea - sure—our hum - ble, thank - ful hearts.

### Refrain



All good gifts a - round us are sent from heav'n a - bove.



We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.

*“We Plow the Fields and Scatter” Text: Matthias Claudius, 1740-1815; tr. Jane M. Campbell, 1817-1878, alt. Music: WIR PFLÜGEN, Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747-1800. Text and music are in public domain.*

## For the Fruit of All Creation



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.  
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.  
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

*“For the Fruit of All Creation” Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000. Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional. Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Reprinted and streamed with permission under One License #A-701229.*