



hanks- giving

Ecumenical Service

November 24, 2020, at 7:00 (Zoom)

First Congregational Church of Lebanon

Greater Hartford United Church

Lebanon United Methodist Church

West Lebanon Congregational Church

All hymns are included after the order of worship, on pages 5-7.

Prelude Vivace, from *Sonata in F* G. P. Telemann

Call to Worship Psalm 65:9-13

Leader: God, you visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it. The river of God is full of water.

People: You provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

Leader: You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

People: You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

Leader: The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy.

People: The meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

Hymn 461 (p. 5) *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* St. George's Windsor

Prayer of Invocation

Gloria (Unison)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Words of Welcome

Musical Offering "The Well," from *Casting Crowns* M. Hall / M. West

The Thanksgiving Proclamation

Litany of Thanksgiving

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, who is good.

People: God's love is everlasting.

Leader: Come, let us praise God with thanksgiving:
For the good world; for things great and small, beautiful and awesome; for
seen and unseen splendors.

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For human life; for talking and moving and thinking together; for common
hopes and hardships shared from birth until our dying.

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For work to do and strength to work; for exchanges of good humor and
encouragement.

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For family; for living together and eating together; for sacred memories and
holy moments.

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For children; for their energy and curiosity; for their brave play and
startling frankness; for their sudden sympathies.

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For the young; for their high hopes; for their unwillingness to accept the
status quo without accompanying questions; for their search for freedom;
for their growing faith.

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For growing up and old; for wisdom deepened by experience; for rest in
leisure; and for time made precious by its passing.

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For your help in times of doubt and sorrow; for healing our diseases; for
preserving us in temptation and danger.

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: For the universal Church into which we have been called; for the Good
News we receive by Word and Sacrament; for our life together in the Lord.

People: Thank you, God.

Leader: 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.

People: Thank you, God.

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

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

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, who is good.

People: God's love is everlasting.

Scripture Lesson

2 Corinthians 9:6-15. ⁶The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. ⁹As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." ¹⁰He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; ¹²for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. ¹³Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, ¹⁴while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. ¹⁵Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Reflections

SangChurl Bae, Kirsty DePree, Stephen R. Silver

Hymn 425 (p. 6) *For the Fruit of All Creation*

Ar Hyd y Nos

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*Unison*)

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.

Sharing of the Thanksgiving Offering

Offertory

Largo, from *Sonata in F*

G. P. Telemann

Doxology (*Unison*)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Hymn 29 (p. 7)

Now Thank We All Our God

Nun Danket

Benediction

Postlude

Allegro, from Sonata in F

G. P. Telemann

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Leading Worship This Evening

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, First Congregational Church of Lebanon

Sally Ann Silfies, Greater Hartford United Church of Christ

The Rev. SangChurl Bae, Lebanon United Methodist Church

The Rev. Kirsty DePree, West Lebanon Congregational Church

Ernie Drown, Organ and Harpsichord • Beth Hilgartner, Recorder

Brian Clancy, Tenor • John Tostenson, Guitar

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Welcome!

We are glad that you have joined us for this evening's community Thanksgiving service. In our ecumenical collaboration we celebrate both the diversity of our congregations and the unity we share in Christ. While we are of varied minds, with varying measures of belief and unbelief, we are one body, bound together by the love of God. We seek to respond faithfully to God's call for justice for all creation. We strive in word and deed to be faithful to Jesus' model of loving acceptance. We seek to create a sanctuary where all will know they are included.

If this is your first time worshiping with our congregations, please introduce yourself to one of the pastors. If you would like more information about our programs and ministries, you are invited to share your contact information with us tonight or during the week.

First Congregational Church of Lebanon

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Come, Ye Thankful People, Come


Henry Alford, 1810-1871

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR 7.7.7.7.D.


George J. Elvey, 1816-1893




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 un-to his praise to yield;
 3 For the Lord our God shall come, And shall take his 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 his 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 his 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 - bid;



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 his gar - ner ev - er - more.
 Come, with all thine an - gels, come, Raise the glo - rious har-vest home. A-men.

For the Fruit of All Creation

425

Fred Pratt Green, 1970



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 God's gifts to ev - ery 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.

This text was written in response to a request for a new harvest hymn for an existing tune. After its publication in England in 1970, it became popular in many countries and can be found set to various tunes.

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Tune: AR HYD Y NOS 8.4.8.4.8.8.8.4.
 Welsh traditional melody
 Musical Relicks of the Welsh Bards, Dublin, 1784
 Harm. L. O. Emerson, 1906
 For another harmonization, see 82

Now Thank We All Our God

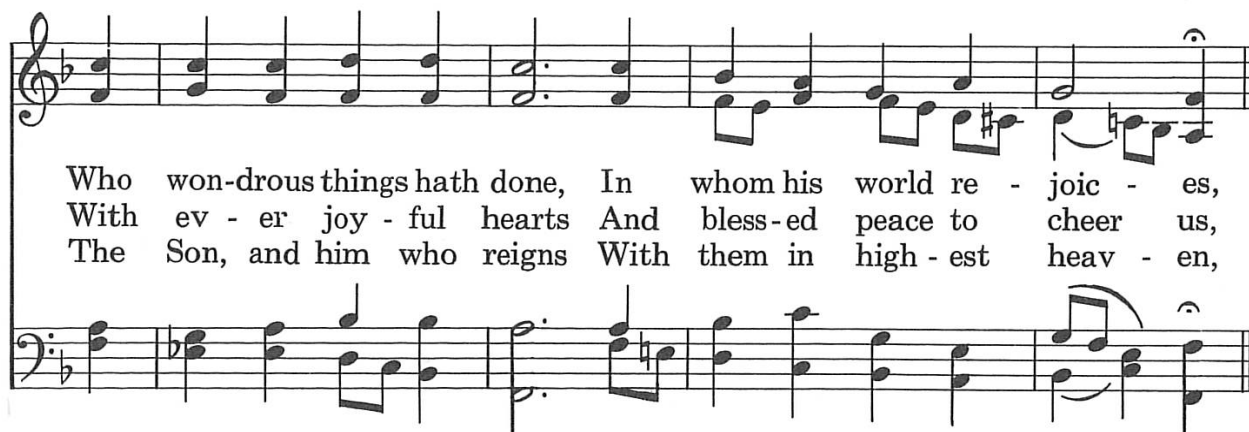
29

Martin Rinckart, 1586-1649
Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878

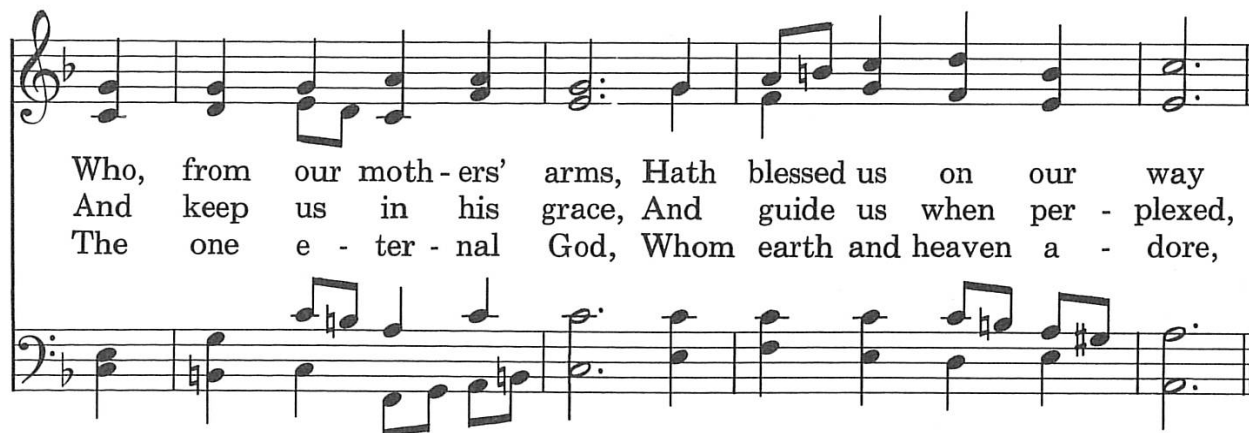
NUN DANKET 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6.
Melody by Johann Crüger, 1598-1662



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 The Fa - ther now be giv - en,



Who won-drous things hath done, In whom his world re - joic - es,
 With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless-ed peace to cheer us,
 The Son, and him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,



Who, from our moth - ers' arms, Hath blessed us on our way
 And keep us in his grace, And guide us when per - plexed,
 The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heaven 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.
 For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more. A - men.