

# ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

JENSEN BEACH, FLORIDA

## Wednesday Devotional Time

### Thanksgiving Eve

November 25, 2020 - 10:00 a.m.

Officiant: Father Tony Holder, Rector



#### Mission Statement:

The Community of All Saints' accepts the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through worship of God, service to His people and stewardship of His gifts.

*The people are invited to read the parts in **bold**.*

Prelude Music

**"Give thanks with a grateful heart"**

Janella Salvador

Opening Sentence

*The Officiant begins with the following words:*

Give us grateful hearts, O Lord, for all your mercies, and make us mindful of the needs of others.

Call to Worship for Thanksgiving:

Officiant: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**People: God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Officiant: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name.

**People: Make known God's deeds among the peoples!**

Officiant: God blesses us with gifts of love:

**People: With food and clothing, home and family.**

Officiant: God blesses us with daily work:

**People: And all we need from day to day.**

Officiant: God protects us in time of danger:

**People: And guards us from every evil.**

Officiant: God calls us into relationship with him:

**People: And forms us into one holy people, the Church of Jesus Christ in this place.**

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

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

## The Collect

*Silence may be kept.*

**Officiant:** Most merciful Father, we humbly thank you for all your gifts so freely bestowed upon us: for life and health and safety, for strength to work and leisure to rest, for all that is beautiful in creation and in human life; but above all we thank you for our spiritual mercies in Christ Jesus our Lord; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

**People:** Amen.

Musical Selection: "In the Lord I'll be ever thankful" Taizé

## Scriptural Reading: Deuteronomy 8. 7-18

*Reader:* A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the Lord your God for the good land that he has given you. Take care that you do not forget the Lord your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth." But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

Reflection The Rector

Musical Selection: "For the Beauty of the Earth" Michelle Swift

## Confession and Absolution

*A brief silence may be observed for examination of conscience. The Officiant then says*

**Officiant:** Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**People:** Gracious Creator, you have given us so much, but too often we take those gifts for granted, or as something to which we are entitled. You call us to live in caring community, but too often we place our wants and needs first, with those of others a distant second. You call us to share Your gifts with the world around us, but we are worried that there may not be enough, and our worrying gets in the way of our sharing. For all the times when we mistreat and misuse Your gifts, for all the times we assume that we get what we have by ourselves, forgive us and lead us back to the path of wisdom.

*The Officiant says the following Absolution.*

God is a gracious giver. God is gracious in forgiveness. God calls us to new patterns and new life. We are a forgiven people! May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God! Amen.

## A Litany of Thanksgiving

*The musical selection - "Sing to the Lord of Harvest (Wie lieblich ist der Maien)" is played during the prayers.*

**Officiant:** Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

**Officiant:** For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

**People:** We thank you, Lord.

**Officiant:** For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

**People:** We thank you, Lord.

**Officiant:** For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

**People:** We thank you, Lord.

**Officiant:** For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

**People:** We thank you, Lord.

**Officiant:** For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,

**People:** We thank you, Lord.

**Officiant:** For setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

**People:** We thank you, Lord.

**Officiant:** For those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

**People:** We thank you, Lord.

**Officiant:** For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

**People:** We thank you, Lord.

**Officiant:** For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

**People:** We thank you, Lord.

**Officiant:** For those who are ill especially (*the names of persons may be mentioned here*) that they will be restored to wholeness of health and strength, and for all the others who have felt Your healing and sustaining touch this past year.

**People:** We thank you, Lord.

**Officiant:** For your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

**People:** We thank you, Lord.

**Officiant:** For the communion of saints, in all times and places,

**People:** We thank you, Lord.

**Officiant:** Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;

**People:** To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing and Dismissal

*The Officiant may say*

*Officiant:* May the Lord of all creation shower his blessings and favor upon you.

*People:* **Amen.**

*Officiant:* May the Lord of the harvest grace your Thanksgiving table with his presence and fill your loved ones with peace.

*People:* **Amen.**

*Officiant:* May the Lord of salvation guide you all your days until you come into the joys of his eternal kingdom.

*People:* **Amen.**

*Officiant:* And may almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

*People:* **Amen.**

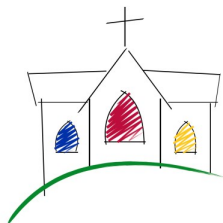
*Officiant:* Let us bless the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

Musical Selection:

**“All Creatures of Our God and King”**

*Anthem Lights*



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**Rector:** The Reverend Dr. Anthony B. Holder

**Deacon:** The Reverend Alan Gellert