

Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:18

## Berea-by-the-Water Lutheran Church (LC-C)

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Serving Christ 53 years in Goderich & 152 years in Dashwood

A Member of L utheran Church Canada

## 2025 THEME FOR BEREA & ZION

# **COME AND SEE!**

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1

Come and experience the faith that ties us together and keeps us at Berea and Zion. In a world of increasing uncertainty, you and I are encouraged to live and share the basics of our faith that keeps us here. It is vital, life and eternal life changing, to know Jesus, our Saviour who lived, suffered, died, and rose, for us, to set us free from the control of evil.

Our faith is grounded in the Good News that Jesus lives... the victory is won. Living the victorious life means that Jesus is an ever-present source of peace, comfort and hope in our lives. This year let's open doors for the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts and minds of our families, friends and community by warmly inviting them to... "COME AND SEE"!

#### **BEREA & ZION GUESTS**

At the end of worship we would like to invite you to please take a moment to sign our guest book in the foyer.

#### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour! It's great to have you with us today! If you're here because you're looking for a church family to be a part of, we're always excited to unite brothers and sisters in Christ.

Talk to Pastor John today.



### A BRIEF SELF-EXAMINATION BEFORE THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

- I recognize that I fall short of God's expectations of me, and I humbly confess to Him all my sins, and sincerely repent of them.
- I believe and confess that Jesus Christ is my Lord and He died for the forgiveness of all my sins. Jesus is the only Saviour from sin, death and the power of the devil.
- ~ I am reconciled to anyone who would have anything against me to the best of my abilities.
- I believe that the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ my Saviour are REALLY present in, with, and under the Bread and Wine of Holy Communion to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation, and to strengthen my union with Him and fellow believers.
- ~ With God's help, I intend to amend my sinful life and live a life of service to Him through regular worship, sacrificial giving and thankful living.

Lutheran Church-Canada (LC-C) congregations practice close(d) communion, (current communicant members of this congregation and those sister congregations in altar fellowship with us), believing that the Bible encourages unity in belief for those receiving the sacrament together.

Guests wishing to join our confession and receive this Holy Sacrament *OR* to inquire about our beliefs further are asked to meet with the pastor *prior* to communing for the first time.

For those NOT communing, we welcome you to come forward for a blessing. Please indicate you want <u>a blessing only</u> by placing your arms across your chest.

## Day of Thanksgiving ~ October 12, 2025

As We Gather

Did you give thanks for your last meal? Most people-even Christians-often "forget" to give thanks. When we do not give thanks, we are like the rich fool of the parable, thinking it was his work that brought the grain, when in fact it was God who gave it to Him. When we do not give thanks, we become fools, forgetting who gave us what we have and all we are. Have you been foolish? That is what Jesus calls the rich man. Give thanks always-that is the advice of Paul. Above all, give thanks for the cross and the empty tomb, which opens heaven to us.

#### WELCOME AND SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

Opening Hymn

892 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

1 Come, ye thankful people, come; Raise the song of harvest home. All be safely gathered in Ere the winter storms begin; God, our maker, doth provide For our wants to be supplied. Come to God's own temple, come; Raise the song of harvest home.

2 All the world is God's own field,
Fruit unto His praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown,
Unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade and then the ear,
Then the full corn shall appear.
Lord of harvest, grant that we
Wholesome grain and pure may be.

3 For the Lord, our God, shall come And shall take His harvest home, From His field shall in that day All offenses purge away, Give His angels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast, But the fruitful ears to store In His garner evermore.

4 Even so, Lord, quickly come
To Thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in,
Free from sorrow, free from sin,
There, forever purified,
In Thy garner to abide:
Come with all Thine angels, come,
Raise the glorious harvest home.

# Invocation and Opening Sentences Psalm 136:1-4

P: We come together in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN

- P: Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,
- C: for His steadfast love endures forever.
- P: Give thanks to the God of gods,
- C: for His steadfast love endures forever.
- P: Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
- C: for His steadfast love endures forever;
- P: to Him who alone does great wonders,
- C: for His steadfast love endures forever.

Confession and Absolution Psalm 14:1; Romans 3:12; Psalm 136:1

P: The fool says in his heart,

- C: "There is no God." They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good.
- P: We want to think it's others David refers to in this verse. Yet Paul puts us all in the same category when he writes to the Romans,
- C: "All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one." Forgive us, Lord, for the sins we have committed in thought, word, and deed. We deserve Your punishment, both now and for eternity.
- P: I have the best news for you as we celebrate and give thanks to God for all He has done this year. He has given us the greatest thing to be thankful for today the forgiveness of all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: "Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever." AMEN

Hymn of Praise

This Is the Feast (LSB 155)

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

1 Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

2 Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honour, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

3 Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

4 Blessing, honour, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

5 For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: We pray, Almighty God, You crown the fields with Your blessing and permit us to gather the fruits of the earth. As stewards of Your creation, grant that we receive Your gifts in humble thankfulness and share Your bounty with those in need.

C: AMEN

Old Testament Reading Deuteronomy 8:1-10 ("The LORD your God is bringing you into a good land.")

"The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the 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 in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.

P: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Philippians 4:6-20

("Let your requests be made known to God.")

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the

gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. AMEN.

P: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Zion Choir: LSB 806 Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

Holy Gospel

Luke 17:11-19

(Healing of the ten lepers.)

On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee.

And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

Profession of Faith

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and

was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. AMEN

Hymn of the Day

785 We Praise You, O God

1 We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator; In grateful devotion our tribute we bring. We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You; We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.

2 We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You; Through trial and tempest our guide You have been. When perils o'ertake us, You will not forsake us, And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

3 With voices united our praises we offer And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise. With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us. To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

Sermon

The Offerings Are Gathered

(The Offertory Prayer is sung as the offerings are brought forward)

We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be; All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!

# Prayers of the Church

P: With great thanksgiving for all God has given us, we pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and all people according to their needs. Lord, we come before You with thankful hearts for all You has done.

## C: Lord, hear our prayer.

P: Almighty God, we come before You on this great weekend of Thanksgiving, confessing that You have given us all we have, yet we often foolishly think what we have is of *OUR* doing alone. Forgive us for our foolishness.

#### C: Lord, hear our prayer.

P: Lord, we lift to You those in our church family and those we know who are sick and suffering, we especially lift up... and all in our hearts. We lift them up to You, the great heavenly physician, asking You, to bring healing and health, bring remedies and wisdom as only You can and according to Your will.

### C: Lord, hear our prayer.

P: Lord, Your Word reminds us to pray for kings and all in authority that we might live peaceful lives. We lift up every ruler in every land. Guide all by Your Holy Spirit to accomplish Your will on this earth, that Your kingdom may truly come.

### C: Lord, hear our prayer.

- P: Lord, each year, Your people of old would recall who they were because of Your blessings. We, like them, are nobody apart from You. Through the cross and empty tomb, You make us Yours by faith, members of Your family, for which we give You thanks.
- C: Lord, hear our prayer.
- P: Lord, Your Word calls us to remember the poor and those in need. By Your Holy Spirit, open our eyes that we may see those who are poor and in need that we can serve them.
- C: Lord, hear our prayer.
- P: Lord Jesus, You have sent the Holy Spirit into our hearts, by which we have believed Your Word and are members of Your kingdom, but we know there are those who do not believe in You. Use us, by Your Spirit, according to Your will, that these ripe fields may bring a great harvest for Your glory.
- C: Lord, hear our prayer.
- P: Thank You, Lord, for those celebrating birthdays, baptismal birthdays, and anniversaries this week. We thank you for the blessings of the past, and entrust them to your future care.
- C: Lord, hear our prayer.
- P: We lift these and all the prayers of our hearts before Your throne, almighty God, in Jesus' name.
- C: AMEN

# + CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER +

(The communion candles are lit at this time)

## Luther's Admonition to the Communicants

P: I exhort you in Christ that you give attention to the Testament of Christ in true faith, and above all take to heart the words with which Christ presents His body and blood to us for forgiveness; that you take note and give thanks for the boundless love that He

showed us when He saved us from the wrath of God, sin, death, and hell by His blood; and that you then externally receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a guarantee and pledge. Let us then in His name, according to His command, and with His own words administer and receive the Testament. LW p. 197-198

#### Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!

Day and night we join to praise Your love and majesty.

You alone are holy, worthy and righteous.

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
We rejoice to join the hymns Of earth and sky and sea.
Generations praise you, with the saints and angels
Holy, blessed through all eternity.

# Lord's Prayer

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

Words of Institution

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24;

Lu ke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

# Peace of the Lord

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: AMEN

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, we pray: Take all our sins away -Our faith increase.

Have mercy on us all, Strengthen us when we fall,
Answer our fervent call And grant us peace.

Distribution of Communion

Distribution Hymn 790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear Now to His temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration!

2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.

Have you not seen All that is needful has been Sent by His gracious ordaining?

3 Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you, Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.

What need or grief Ever has failed of relief? Wings of His mercy did shade you.

4 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;

Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.

Ponder anew What the Almighty can do
As with His love He befriends you.

5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen Sound from His people again;
Gladly forever adore Him!

# Dismissal Blessing

P: May this holy and precious body and blood of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in the true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

# Post-Communion Prayer

P: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### C: AMEN

### Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: AMEN

Closing Hymn

895 Now Thank We All Our God

- 1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices, Who wondrous things has done, In whom His world rejoices; Who from our mothers' arms Has blest us on our way With countless gifts of love And still is ours today.
- 2 Oh, 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 His grace And guide us when perplexed And free us from all ills In this world and the next!
  - 3 All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given, The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven, The one eternal God, Whom earth and heav'n adore; For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.

# Announcements and Dismissal

P: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

#### SERVANTS IN THE LORD'S HOUSE

#### **BEREA**

Organist: Bill Irwin

Altar Guild: Kevin & Heather Ball Elders: Kevin Ball, Chuck Becker

For Prayer: Lilo 226 421-2436, Elizabeth 237-3622

#### **ZION**

Organist: Joanne Maguire

Altar Guild: B. Brown / C. Freiter

Elders: Ken Rader, Lorne Koch, Tom Hayter,

Randy Bowers, Jeff Miller

For Prayer: Nancy 237-3653, Brenda 237-3789

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