



DIVINE SERVICE

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

26th APRIL, 2020



Service Order

Online Service available at www.lvlp.org



LOCKYER VALLEY LUTHERAN PARISH

LIDLAY, ROPELEY, LOCKROSE AND TABELL MINISTRY AREA

OPENING SENTENCE

P: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth

C. Worship the Lord with gladness;

P. Come into his presence with singing.

C. Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

P. and his court with praise.

C. Give thanks to him, bless his name.

P. For the Lord is good;

C. His steadfast love endures forever,

P. and his faithfulness to all generations.

We gather in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

INVOCATION

We gather in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Song LHS 113 Crown Him with many crowns

1/5

Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own:
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king
Through all eternity.

2/5

Crown Him the Son of God
Before the worlds began;
And ye, who tread where He hath trod,
Crown Him the Son of man.
Who every grief hath known
That wrings the human breast,
And takes and bears them for His own
That all in Him may rest.

3/5

Crown Him the Lord of love;
Behold His hands and side,
Those wounds yet visible above
In beauty glorified:
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For Thou hast died for me;
Thy praise shall never, never fail
Throughout eternity.

4/5

Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave,
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save:
His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring,
And lives that death may die.

5/5

Crown Him the Lord of heaven,
Enthroned in worlds above;
Crown Him the king to whom is given
The wondrous name of Love:
Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before Him fall;

Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,
For He is king of all.

CONFESSION OF SINS

Friends in Christ:

Friends in Christ: In our baptism, we received forgiveness for all our sins.

Therefore, let us come before God and confess our wrongdoing, and ask him to revive us like reviving dry bones. Let us take a time of silent reflection on those things that are not right between us and God, and between us and other people.

P. I ask each of you in the presence of God who searches the heart” Do you confess that you have sinned,
and do you repent of your sins?

C. Yes, I do.

P. Do you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins, and do you desire forgiveness in

His name?

C. I do

P. Do you intend with the help of the Holy Spirit to live as in God’s presence, and to strive daily to lead
a holy life, even as Christ has made you holy?

C. I do

ABSOLUTION

On behalf of my Lord Jesus Christ and by his command, I affirm what was true through your baptism: I

forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Peace be with you!

Amen

SHARING THE PEACE

SONG OF ADORATION

AT325 Sing to God with joy and glad

GREETING

P. The Lord be with you

C. And also with you.

P. Let us pray faith in our Lord:

Lord God, heavenly Father we thank you that you have again shown your kindness by giving us the fruits of the earth in their seasons. Help us to use them rightly, to your glory, for our own wellbeing, and for the relief of those in need. Merciful Father, you have protected the fruits of the earth and crowned the year with your blessing. Bless and protect the living seed of your word which has been sown in our hearts, so that we may produce the fruit of your word and always offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice of thanks. We ask

this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 8

A Warning Not to Forget God in Prosperity

After the reading:

P. This is the word of the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 65

For the director of music. A psalm of David. A song.

1. Praise awaits you, our God, in Zion;
to you our vows will be fulfilled.
2. You who answer prayer,
to you all people will come.
3. When we were overwhelmed by sins,
you forgave our transgressions.
4. Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts!
We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple.
5. You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds, God our Savior,
the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas,
6. who formed the mountains by your power,
having armed yourself with strength,
7. who stilled the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations.
8. The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders;
where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy.
9. You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly.
The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, for so you have ordained it.
10. You drench its furrows and level its ridges;
you soften it with showers and bless its crops.
11. You crown the year with your bounty,
and your carts overflow with abundance.
12. The grasslands of the wilderness overflow;
the hills are clothed with gladness.
13. The meadows are covered with flocks
and the valleys are mantled with grain; they shout for joy and sing.

**All: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!
Glory to the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forevermore.**

Amen

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 9

Sowing generously

P. This is the word of the Lord

C. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 17:11-19

The thankful leper

After the Gospel

P. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise be to you O Christ, raised to live forever.

P. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for all your blessings. Help us to be thankful at all times.

C. Amen

SONG LHS 814 For the Fruits

Pastor Jing's sermon

Thanksgiving: A lifestyle of being God's children

Deuteronomy 8, Psalm 65, 2 Corinthians 9, Luke 17: 11-19

Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday Service, 26th April 2020

Grace and peace to you from the Father through our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ. Amen. The sermon today is focusing on the theme of thanksgiving which is taught across all the Bible readings. I will identify the importance of having a thankful heart. At the end I will introduce to you what I call as "a cross shaped self-examination." Let us pray: Lord God, sanctify us in the truth, your Word alone is the truth. Amen.

When I studied at ALC in Adelaide, the street we lived in is called Wellington Square, it is just next to ALC campus. Lily and I often took a walk in the square when I was not busy on writing of my assignment. The name of the square reminds me a story of the Duke of Wellington, who was a famous British military leader. He had many great accomplishments and even defeated Napoleon at Waterloo. He was a brilliant and demanding man. But in his old age a woman asked him this question, "What would you do differently if you had your life to live over again?" He thought carefully and said, "I would give more praise to God." This is a great lesson for all of us. You may ask if we would become people of praise and thanksgiving all the days of our lives, how different of our lives could be.

But this is a false-proposition. Because by our sinful nature we could never become people of praise and thanksgiving even in a single day. Whereas it is also true for us as Christians because of Jesus Christ. He opened the gate of praising God in our

hearts by his death and resurrection, his wounded body is the gate of praise, his holy precious blood is the perfect sacrifice of thanksgiving on our behalf, once for all. So, in theory and also in reality, we are enabled by the Holy Spirit to worship and praise God the Father through the Son, and receive endless blessings unto life eternal. This is the summary of the teachings from today's Bible reading.

How important it is for us to offer praise and thanksgiving to God in our daily life? Let me tell you, that is the fatal, decisive, and major battlefield of our daily struggles in temptations. Because our sinful nature drags us turning away from God and seeking other gods especially the one hidden in our hearts as self-idolatry. Moses warned the Israelites in the First Reading can give us a glimpse of what self-idolatry looks like and the deadly consequence. He said, "17 Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth.' 18 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. 19 If you do forget the LORD your God and follow other gods to serve and worship them, I solemnly warn you today that you shall surely perish."

You see, without God's grace, without Christ's salvation, our fate, even as God's chosen one, is nothing more than perish. The Good news is that the Word became flesh. Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Because of the coming of Jesus as the Son of God, the Father may "crown the year with His bounty; His wagon tracks overflow with richness. The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy," This beautiful picture is portrayed in Psalm 65 we read today.

Because of Jesus Christ, his death and his resurrection, we became new creature who praise our Creator day and night from inside out. We became the vessel of God's grace to other people with the creatures under our possession and care—the cattle, the horse, the sheep, the goose, the chicken, the crops, the vegetables or even the business in which we serve others. What the Second Reading says today becomes true here: "God 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. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God." What a beautiful and harmonious picture in front of us.

Then comes the reality of God's people described in the Gospel story today. Nine out of ten lepers who received healing from Jesus just disappeared without returning to God and presenting their praise and thanksgiving. Only one came back and this one was actually not from God's chosen nation of Israel the Jew but a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well. (Luke 17:17-19)"

As God's chosen people of Christians, are you thankful? Are you thankful for your salvation? Are you thankful for your present circumstances— your problematic family?

Your uncertain friendship, your under expectation harvest? Your health condition? Your recently lost of job, or your unsatisfied study? It is not always easy to give thanks when things are getting worse and we can do nothing about like drought, like bushfire, like flood, or the most recent one, the coronavirus COVID-19. But being thankful is the very character we as Christians are privileged to have. Thankfulness is a key to our life. It is the key that turns our situation around because it changes us, and our attitude and even our outlook. There is the power in a thankful heart. A thankful heart has no room for bitterness, no room for lies, no room for self-focused idolatry.

A thankful heart is a great gift flows from our salvation. It cannot be ignored or neglected. Thanksgiving has great power to bring joy and break the power of the enemy. Whenever you give thanks to God, despite the most difficult circumstances, the enemy loses a big battle in your life. When you give thanks in the midst of difficulty, you are actually entering God's peace and joy which the enemy no longer has an ability to hold or manipulate you. Satan is defeated when we have a thankful heart because all our thankfulness flows from the Cross where our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ has defeated Satan and conquered death.

Therefore, let us thank and praise God for everything in our life. Yes, everything in life, good and bad. Thank Him for even the difficulties, the hardship, the pain that we are experiencing, that we are enduring, that we are suffering. For that is the true meaning of being God's children.

There is a practical way to examine yourself, to discipline yourself, and grow yourself spiritually. I call it "a cross shaped self-examination." Let me explain to you.

Firstly, it is the vertical line of the cross. To check for yourself whether you are complaining anything. Especially during the difficult times. Instead of complaining, think of ways that you can verbally praise God with thanksgiving. The principle of this vertical examination is to be obedient to God the Father who are in heaven and above heavens; to acknowledge our limitation, to acknowledge our primary identity as His creature, to acknowledge our total dependence on His provision and guidance as our Creator.

Secondly it is the horizontal line of the cross. Don't compare yourself with your neighbour, with other people, they are all God's creatures. Don't wish that your life was different. God knows what is best for you and for everyone, even in the worst situation like death. The Bible says having a thankful heart is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. In fact, when we begin to thank God for what we have rather than comparing ourselves with others, it opens the door for God's blessings – abundant blessings which were prepared for us before ages in Christ.

For many people, if not all, few things feel better than receiving heartfelt praise and appreciation from someone else. I don't know whether it is because of the way in which we are created, or, as the result of the pride of life—the cause of the Fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. But one thing I do know, that is, when we present our praise and thanksgiving to God, our own hearts are filled with great joy—the joy given to us by God as the result of the Son's obedience to the Father, as the

creature's adoration to the Creator, as the evidence of being saved through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, the Son of God, the saviour of the whole world. Only he guarantees our thanksgiving being received by and pleasing to God. For only he is the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.

At the end of my sermon, I guess you probably get used to hear a very familiar Bible verse which is quoted from Philippians chapter 4, verse 7. But today I will quote the preceding sentence verse 6 together, so that you can taste the goodness of the Lord in fullness of His grace. St Paul says, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Amen.

CONFESS OUR FAITH

SONG AT 155 We believe in God the Father

We believe in God the Father, we believe, we believe.
We believe He is the Holy One, we believe, we believe.
We believe in Jesus Christ, the Lord, we believe, we believe,
We believe he is God's only Son, we believe, we believe.
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit.
Born of the Virgin Mary;
For us He died and was buried;
On the third day He rose again.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, we believe, we believe.
We believe in the holy Church of God, we believe, we believe.
We believe in God's forgiveness, the resurrection from the dead:
We believe in life everlasting, we believe, we believe.
Amen, we believe.

OFFERING HYMN AT 265 Take us now

OFFERING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you for all the good things you continue to provide for us. Don't let us take your gifts for granted or abuse them. Instead, help us always to rely on you in faith. Use us and what you have given us for your good purposes.
Amen.

HARVEST PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you,

Let us pray for God's blessing on the harvest. We praise you, Lord our God, creator and king of the universe. You have created the world and made everything that is good in it. You make the sun shine on the earth and water it with showers of rain. You have produced plants and animals from earth and have given us times for work and rest. Bless these Harvest, so that by them life may be nourished and sustained

here on earth. Give us health and strength for our work, so that we may rejoice in your goodness and use your good gifts for the benefits of all your creatures; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, Now and forever. Amen

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Call to prayer

Our heavenly Father cares for us and knows our needs. In our prayer, let us cast our cares on him in the name of Jesus:

Prayer for ANZACS

Lord as we commemorate our ANZACS at this special time, we pray to honour the freedom that their efforts, including their ultimate sacrifices have give us. We thank them for the peace that we enjoy today. Lord watch over all our current service men and women as they continue to uphold the ANZAC spirit in their endeavour to keep our country peaceful and free. Inspire them to confront the challenges that await them with the bravery and determination of the ANZACS who served before them. Keep them and their families safe.

Lord have mercy,

Hear our Prayer

Prayer for Farmers

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the Blessing of fertile soils and a favourable climate here in the Lockyer Valley and for the success of growing food for people and fodder for animals. We thank you Lord for the rain you send and underground water you supply for all our crops to grow. Be with all farmers as we do our daily work. Keep us strong on body and strong in our Faith.

Lord have Mercy

Hear our Prayer

Prayer for Schools

Lord God, friend of children, we thank you for the opportunity of studying at school and at home. We thank you for the use of technology, knowledge and skills so that we can look after your creations. We pray for all the Christians at school to witness the gospel to speak faithfully for Jesus Christ so your name be glorified.

Lord have Mercy,

Hear our Prayer.

Prayer for Cradle Row kids in their Baptism Anniversary

We pray that *Lilly Thompson*, daughter of Kyrлие and Shane, sister to Cameron and *Paige Knight*, daughter of Karla and Brendan are blessed by Gods love with growing their faith and grant them peace and joy.

Lord have Mercy,

Hear our Prayer.

Prayer for Aged Care

Father in heaven in your loving kindness draw near to all who are aged at home or in Aged Care Services, with this time of social distancing and visiting being restricted, bless them and keep them safe and in good health.

Lord have Mercy,

Hear our Prayer.

Prayer for Business

Heavenly Father, thank you for the business opportunity in the Lockyer Valley with its abundance of gifts. We pray for those of us in business that we will always operate with honesty and integrity and totally trusting you in all our activities.

We are experiencing hardship at this time as we live with so much uncertainty but we look to you in faith as we move forward in hope and through your love total peace that only you can give.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our Prayer

Prayer for the District

We thank you Heavenly Father, for the labour of our church, from generations past and present. May it continue to bear much fruit in our Country of Australia.

We thank and praise you today for the Lutheran Paul and Assistant Bishop Mark. Give them wisdom and strength during these times. We are thankful for our Councils of the LCAQD- the LCAQD Board, Lutheran Education, Lutheran Services, Lutheran Youth of QLD, and Ministry and Mission and all their subsidiary councils, including Queensland Lutheran Church Councils. Give them the strength and guidance they need to make unusual and difficult decisions during this time of the Pastors to serve and for guiding the staff of our departments. They are working above and beyond their original calling. Thank you for giving them their daily needs and when they retire after their work, provide them with a sound sleep. We thank and pray for all of our Lutheran family here in Queensland that their faith may be upheld and strengthened during COVID 19.

Lord have Mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Prayer for Home

Heavenly Father we give you thanks for our homes. We thank you we have somewhere that where we can sleep at night. Lord we think also for those who do not have a house; we pray for them we pray that as a society we can take care of them and meet their needs. Lord forward to the day when we can come to your heavenly home where all will be provided for; all those that have homes now and those that don't. Lord we look forward to that time a time of great blessing when we are reunited with you.

Lord in your Mercy

Hear our prayer

CONCLUDING PRAYER

C. Lord God, unless you care for us and give us what we need, all our work is

in vain. Keep our hearts and minds set firmly on your word, so that we may always trust in you, and be generous with the gifts you have given us. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

THE AARONIC BLESSING

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.

Amen.

SONG TIS 154 Great is your faithfulness

THE SENDING

P. Go in peace, with thankful hearts to serve the Lord.

C. In the name of Christ. Amen

Special prayers for these people in need of good Health

Brooke Kirkwood, Gwen Diete, Joan and Alex Body, Ann Rickuss, Marlene Staatz, Grace Norman,
Pastor Noel Noack

Dear friends of the Lockyer Valley,

We have received a phone call this morning (Wednesday) from Meg Noack letting us know that Pastor Noel is in the PA Hospital Brisbane.

He has fallen through the roof of the shed at the Bunya Mountains and landed heavily on a tractor implement below.

Fortunately, there was help present and he was flown by helicopter to the PA Hospital. The damage will lay him low for a while with damaged vertebrae and an assortment of other wounds, still being assessed. We ask that you please pray for Pastor Noel's recovery and the family currently.

- David Klinge

Baptism Anniversary

During April we remember the following children on the anniversary of their Baptism in our prayer:

- *Lilly Thompson*, daughter of Kyrлие and Shane, sister to Cameron
- *Paige Knight*, daughter of Karla and Brendan

From the Archives

Harvest Festival celebrated at Ropeley Lutheran Church about Thirty Years ago.



Your offering is part of our Divine Worship
and is presented to God who has given us first

Ropeley Lutheran Church: NAB Gatton BSB 084-657 Account number 508724245
Lockrose Lutheran Church: NAB Lowood BSB 084-780 Account number 508809759
Laidley Redeemer Church: NAB Laidley. BSB 084-771 Account number 492460969

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Faith Lutheran College Office: 5466 9900
Peace Lutheran School Office: 5462 0700

Funeral Catering

Laidley: Shirley Klinge 0457 610 457
Ropeley: Robyn Dodt 5462 2062

General Catering:

Laidley Doreen Pitman
5465 6469/ 0438 665 301

Hall Bookings:

Redeemer: 0457 610 457
Ropeley: 5462 7184

LLL Representative:

Bernie Muller 5465 1268
Secretary: Gloria Weier: 5465 1704

Tabeel Lutheran Age Care: 5466 8300

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Voice 92.9 FM

Anything to be added to the Bulletin by
9am every Thursday Please contact:

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Next Sunday, 3rd May 2020, 4th Sunday of Easter Good Shepherd Sunday

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47 Life and worship in the apostolic church

Psalm 23

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25 The shepherd and bishop of our souls

Gospel Reading: John 10:1-10 Jesus, the gate for the sheep