

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

The Rev. Katherine Mitchell, Presiding
The Rev. Paul Grenon, Preaching
The Rev. Johanna Marcure
The Rev. Paul Rollins



*I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
I will tell of all your marvelous works. Psalm 9:1*

**Wednesday, November 27, 2019
7:00 pm**

Shepherd of the Valley
United Methodist Church | 604 Seven Mile Rd | Hope, RI 02831

Prelude

Call to Worship

The Rev. Katherine Mitchell

Presider Gracious God we have come to praise you!

People **We are Baptist, Catholic, Episcopal and Methodist and we are all siblings in Christ.**

Presider As we gather together this hour, let us leave behind our worries and stress. Let us let go of our unrealistic desires for the perfect holiday.

People **Rather, let us open our hearts to God's grace all around us. Let us take a pause and count our blessings.**

Hymn *Let all things now living*

TFWS #2008

Prayer of the Day

The Rev. Paul Rollins

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us pray.

The Prayer of the Day is then read

Almighty God, 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.**

All may sit.

First Reading Philippians 4:4-9

Loxi Ellingwood

A Reading from Paul's letter to the church in Philippi.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry 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, beloved, 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. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

After the reading, the reader says

Pastor The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The People remain seated.

Psalm 100

Josh Lima

Jubilate Deo

Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; *
 serve the LORD with gladness
 and come before his presence with a song.
Know this: The LORD himself is God; *
 he himself has made us, and we are his;
 we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
 give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; *
 and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Second Reading Matthew 14:13-21

The Rev. Paul Grenon

A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion

for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

After the reading, the pastor says

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Homily

The Rev. Paul Grenon

Litany of Thanksgiving

The Rev. Johanna Marcure

You who are the Mystery at the heart of all things,
source of all that is, to you we give thanks.

For the gift of Creation, and the wonder of this world,
we thank you.

For every creature and the web of all living things to which we belong,
we thank you.

For the gift of life, and the miracle that we are here today,
we thank you.

For gifts of sight and hearing, the gift of movement and touch, and for all the wonders that we behold,
we thank you.

For all the people who have blessed us,
we thank you.

For all our loved ones, for any who have taught us, helped us, loved us,
accompanied us or prayed for us,
we thank you.

For the food we eat, and all those around the world who provide it,
we thank you.

May our gratitude overflow to others, especially those who do not have what
we do;

**May our thanks take form in giving and in working for the world you intend
for us. O God, fountain of our souls and earth of our lives, we thank you,
and pray that we may always live in humility, gratitude and joy. Amen.**

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Peace

The Rev. Paul Rollins

The Presider says to the people

Priest The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Offertory Anthem *We Gather Together*

arr. Jeremy Walton

*Combined choirs of
North Scituate Baptist Church
Shepherd Valley United Methodist Church
St. Joseph's Church and
Trinity Episcopal Church*

**Our Offertory collected this evening will be used to support the
Outreach Ministries of St. Joseph's Church.**

Prayer of Dedication

The Rev. Katherine Mitchell

The People and Presider pray together

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Closing Hymn Now thank we all our God

UMC Hymnal #102

Benediction and Dismissal

The Rev. Katherine Mitchell

People Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

*We are grateful to all
for gathering this evening to offer our thanks
to God for all of God's blessings.*

*Special thanks to
Music Director, Steve Haunschild,
for providing the music for this evening's service.*

Participating Parishes

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