

## Thanksgiving devotions 2020

### Gathering song – **Now thank we all our God**

Luke 17:11-19

<sup>11</sup>On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. <sup>12</sup>As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, <sup>13</sup>they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” <sup>14</sup>When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean. <sup>15</sup>Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. <sup>16</sup>He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. <sup>17</sup>Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? <sup>18</sup>Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” <sup>19</sup>Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

### **Questions for Conversation:**

Did you write thank you notes as a child? Do you write them now? Why or why not?

Why is it so important to say thank you?

It is common to gather at the thanksgiving table and say what we are grateful for

- Family, food, friends, home, etc.
- Different to be specific – thank you for taking the time to \_\_\_\_\_. Thank you for this specific gift \_\_\_\_\_. Thank you for the way you supported me when \_\_\_\_\_.

Different kind of thanksgiving this year

- Many of us are not gathering with large groups of families like we normally do
- How can we be more intentional about our gratitude? Send a note, make a call, sit down with someone in your house
- Look for specific ways to express gratitude
- How will you share your gratitude this year?

## Prayer

God of all creation, we gather today to give you thanks. Thanks for all you have blessed us with: food, family, friends, shelter and love. We remember before you today those who have sat at our tables in years past and are not here today. May the memories that we have of years past remind us of times filled with joy and love. Bless our food, bless our gatherings, bless our time together; that we may be reminded of your blessings each day. In your holy name we pray. AMEN

## Blessing

May the God of all creation,  
in whose image we are made,  
who claims us and calls us beloved,  
who strengthens us for service,  
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!  
The blessing of God,  
Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit,  
be with you today and always.  
**Amen.**

## **Song – For the Fruit of all Creation**

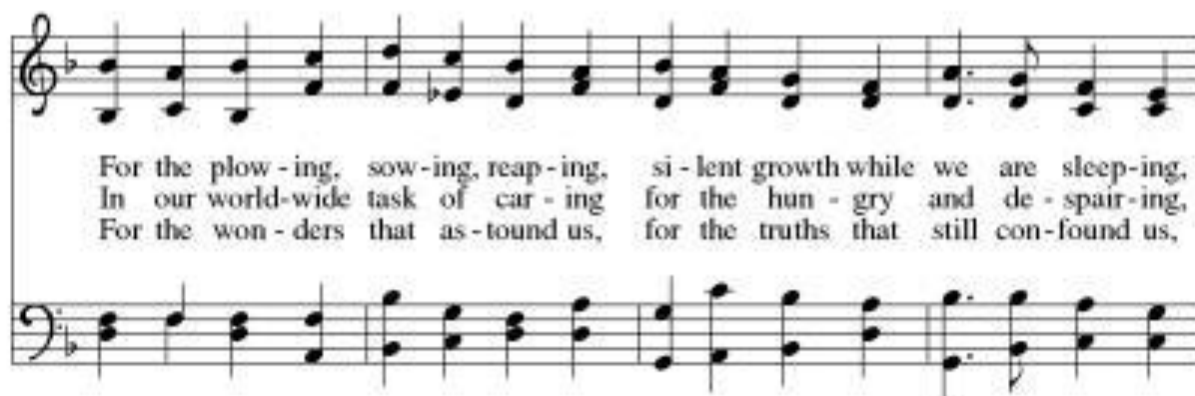
## For the Fruit of All Creation



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 these gifts to ev - 'ry 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.

## Now Thank We All Our God



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voic - es,  
2 Oh, 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 has done, in whom this world re - joic - es;  
with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us,  
the Son, and Spir - it blest, who reign in high - est heav - en,



who, from our moth - ers' arms, has blest us on our way  
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when per - plexed,  
the one e - ter - nal God, whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.  
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878  
Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662