



Bryn Athyn Church

Thanksgiving 2021 Welcome

Thanksgiving brings us together as a congregation to celebrate and offer thanks to the Lord for His countless blessings. It provides an opportunity to humbly confess that it is the Lord *"who made us, and not we ourselves"* (Psalm 100). May the peace and happiness of heaven fill our hearts this Thanksgiving Day as we look for ways to love one another as the Lord loves us (John 15).

Preludes

- Processional in A Flat Major - David N. Johnson
- Morning Has Broken - arr. Lloyd Larson
- Now Thank We All Our God - arr. Jeffrey Honoré
- Men of Harlech – arr. Gordon Langford
- Ashokan Farewell – Jay Ungar, arr. Alan Fernie
- O God Our Help – William Croft, arr. van der Welde
- Hymns of Praise – Goff Richards
- Now Thank We All Our God – J.S. Bach

Procession

- The Home of Legends – Paul Lovatt-Cooper
- Praise the Lord With Drums and Cymbals – Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Postlude

Arsenal – Jan Van der Roost

- Penn View Brass Band, directed by John Shaw
- Bryn Athyn Choristers, directed by Robin Bier
- Terry Schnarr, organ

Order of Service

Come, Sing to the Lord of Harvest 1001

The Opening of the Lord's Word The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in the heavens, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, as in heaven so upon the earth. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

Thanksgiving Recitation

Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands! Serve the LORD with gladness; come before His presence with singing. Know that the Lord, He is God; it is He who made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations. *Psalm 100*

The God of Harvest Praise..... 999

Reading from the Word

For the Beauty of the Earth..... 844

Message from Rev. Derek Elphick

"Forget not all His benefits"

Interlude

The Lord Bless You and Keep You – John Rutter

You will be invited to bring your fruit or vegetable offering up to the altar after the interlude, then return to your seats.

The First Fruits..... 1002

Blessing

For Peace and for Plenty..... 1004

Deuteronomy 26:1-4

And it shall be, when you come into the land which the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance, and you possess it and dwell in it, that you shall take some of the first of all the produce of the ground, which you shall bring from your land that the LORD your God is giving you, and put it in a basket and go to the place where the LORD your God chooses to make His name abide. And you shall go to the one who is priest in those days, and say to him, *"I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come to the country which the LORD swore to our fathers to give us."* Then the priest shall take the basket out of your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God.

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The fact that first fruits were given to Jehovah symbolized the idea that the most important aspect of religion was to give the Lord rather than ourselves the credit for the good actions and true ideas of our faith. Giving the Lord the credit means knowing, acknowledging, and believing that it all comes from Him, not from ourselves . . . The reason first fruits have this symbolism is that they were offerings, which were a way of giving thanks for the produce and of acknowledging blessings from the Lord. Such offerings were therefore a way of acknowledging that everything comes from Him. In an inner sense, they were an acknowledgment of the good impulses and true ideas of faith that are symbolized by a harvest, grain, oil, new wine, wine, wool, and fruit of which first fruits were given.