

The Lord's Day in Worship

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Thanksgiving Sunday
November 19, 2017

Today is Thanksgiving Sunday, and we lift up our hearts to Almighty God to thank Him for His great, unceasing mercies to us. Our second hymn this morning is one written by Pastor Martin Rinkart in 1636 in Eilenberg, Germany, in the midst of the Thirty Years War. During this tragic conflict, Eilenberg was besieged and invaded on many occasions. In one year, Pastor Rinkart conducted funerals for 5,000 people, including his wife. His faithful resolve to thank God in every circumstance has inspired God's people for centuries. Today in Germany, Rinkart's "Now Thank We All Our God" is one of the most widely sung hymns, second only to "A Mighty Fortress."

"A thankful heart is one of the primary identifying characteristics of a believer. It stands in stark contrast to pride, selfishness, and worry. And it helps fortify the believer's trust in the Lord and reliance of His provision, even in the toughest times. No matter how choppy the seas become, a believer's heart is buoyed by constant praise and gratefulness to the Lord."

—John MacArthur

"It is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor."

—George Washington

{ **GATHERED WORSHIP:** The Triune God Renews His People }

 **CALL TO WORSHIP**

David Driskill

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name;

People: *make known his deeds among the peoples!*

Pastor: Sing to him, sing praises to him;

People: *tell of all his wondrous works!*

Pastor: Glory in his holy name;

ALL: *let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!*

Psalm 105:1-3

 *Congregation stand as able.*

HYMN OF INVITATION

“Come, Ye Thankful People Come”

Come, ye thankful people, come, Raise the song of harvest home;
All is 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.

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 Whole-some grain and pure may be.

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.

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 presence to abide;
Come, with all thine angels, come, Raise the glorious harvest home.

Words: Henry Alford, 1810–1871. Music: George J. Elvey, 1816–1893.

 **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them up unto the Lord.*

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: *It is right for us to do so.*

Pastor: We indeed give thanks unto You, Holy Father
for the beauty of Your Creation and the wonder
of Your redeeming love.
Our praises shall never cease
for Your Fatherly care and tender mercies
toward each one of us;
wherefore we all bow in humble gratitude
and return unto You the worship due Your Name,
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Margaret Ann Pyburn

Luke 17:11-19

On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance ¹³and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." ¹⁴When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; ¹⁶and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? ¹⁸Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

This is the Word of the Lord.

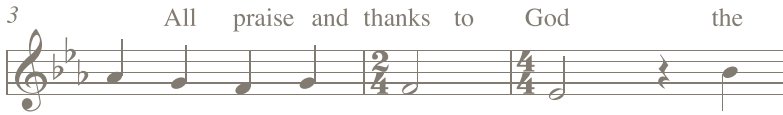
Thanks be to God.

☒ HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

“Now Thank We All Our God”



Now thank we all our God with
O may this boun-teous God through



All praise and thanks to God the

heart and hands and voic - es, Who
all our life be near us, with



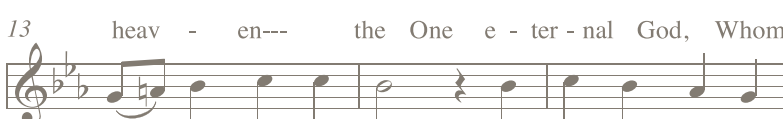
Fa - ther now be giv - en, the

won-drous things hath done, in Whom His world re -
ev - er - joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to



Son, and Him who reigns with them in high-est

joic - es; Who from our moth-ers' arms, hath
cheer us; and keep us in His grace, and



heav - en--- the One e - ter - nal God, Whom

blessed us on our way with count-less gifts of
guide us when per-plexed, and free us from all



earth and heav'n a - dore; for thus it was, is

love, and still is ours to - day.
ills in this world and the next.
now, and shall be ev - er - more.

Words: Martin Rinkart, 1636; tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1858.

Music: Johann Cruger, 1647; harmonization by J.S. Bach (1685-1750).

☒ READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Habakkuk 3:17-19

Though the fig tree should not blossom,
nor fruit be on the vines,
the produce of the olive fail
and the fields yield no food,
the flock be cut off from the fold
and there be no herd in the stalls,
¹⁸yet I will rejoice in the Lord;
I will take joy in the God of my salvation.
¹⁹God, the Lord, is my strength;
he makes my feet like the deer's;
he makes me tread on my high places.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF TRUST

“Though Troubles Assail Us”

Though troubles assail us, and dangers affright,
Though friends should all fail us and foes all unite,
Yet one thing secures us, whatever betide,
The promise assures us, “The lord will provide.”

The birds, without garner or storehouse, are fed;
From them let us learn to trust God for our bread.
His saints what is fitting shall ne’er be denied
So long as ‘tis written, “The Lord will provide”

When Satan assails us to stop up our path,
And courage all fails us, we triumph by faith.
He cannot take from us, though oft he has tried,
This heart-cheering promise, “The Lord will provide.”

No strength of our own, and no goodness we claim;
Yet, since we have known of the Savior’s great name,
In this our strong tower for safety we hide:
The Lord is our power, “The Lord will provide.”

Words: John Newton, 1779. Music: Joanna (St. Denio) 1839.

GIVING OF FIRST FRUITS

“God So Loved the World”
Chancel Choir

God so loved the world
That he gave his only begotten son
That who so believeth in him
Should not perish but have everlasting life.

Words: John 3:16. Music: Bob Chilcott.

 **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor: The peace of the LORD be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Greet one another with words of peace and reconciliation.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hollye Stigler

Visitors, please take a moment to fill out the attendance cards located in the pew racks.

You may read all of our ministry announcements on page 20.

Children are dismissed at this time.

THE MORNING PRAYERS

John Hamilton

☒ READING FROM THE EPISTLES

Philippians 2:1-4

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,
²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Pastor: All flesh is grass,
and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

People: *The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God stands forever.*

Isaiah 40:6b, 8

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

All who are united in Christ Jesus by faith and are baptized, communing members of His visible Church are invited to come to the Lord's Table. If you are not communing but would like to participate, come forward and fold your hands, and you will receive a prayer of blessing from the server.

This morning, we especially welcome to the table our new communing members:

Ella Kathryn Bishop
Michael Chavar
Cannon Gregory Cherry
Wiley Burton Cooper
Kate Darden Cotton
Benjamin Vaughan Evans
Caleb Barnard Flores
Hannah Elizabeth Gidley

Lankford Catherine Gurner
William Fred Martin V
Libby Nailen
Hilary Louis Rome
Evelyn Grace Squires
Henry Martin Smith
Lee Loftin Sheppard, Jr.
Andrew Charles Wilson

Please bring your commitment card forward during communion and place it in the baskets provided.

Prayer of Confession

ALL: *Almighty and gracious God,
to humble Himself for our salvation,
and Who has called us to walk in His lowly steps,
we confess that we have failed to imitate Him,
but rather have sought to place ourselves above others
and have ungratefully spent Your gifts on ourselves rather than others.
Please forgive us for our pride and selfishness,
and restore in us the desire and power to do your will,
all for the glory of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ,
in Whose Name we pray, Amen.*

 **Assurance of Pardon**

Pastor: "Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord:
though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red like crimson,
they shall become like wool.

—Isaiah 1:18

Dearly beloved of God, in Jesus Christ your sins
are forgiven.

ALL: *Glory be to God the Father, God the Son, and God the
Holy Spirit. Amen.*

 **Apostle's Creed**

ALL: *I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.*

☒ "Come, Thou Almighty King"

To the great One in Three e - ter - nal

5
prais - es be, hence ev - er - more.

9
His sov' - reign maj - es - ty, may we in glo - ry see,

13
and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

Words: Anonymous, 1797. Music: Felice de Giardini (1716-1796).

Words of Institution

from 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Prayer of Humble Access

ALL: *We do not presume to come to this your Table,
O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up
the crumbs under your Table,
but you are the same Lord
whose property is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to commemorate in this breaking of bread
the death of your dear son Jesus Christ,
that we may feed on him in our hearts by faith,
and that we may evermore dwell in Him,
and He in us.
Amen.*

Prayer of Consecration

Pastor: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast and united in ministry with your people in every place.

This we pray in the name of the One who taught us to pray, saying:

ALL: *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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
for Thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.*

**If you desire gluten free bread, please walk down the center aisle, either upstairs or down, and the server will provide it accordingly. Congregation will sing the printed hymns during Communion.*

HYMNS FOR THE EUCHARIST

“O Great God”

O great God of highest heaven,
Occupy my lowly heart.
Own it all and reign supreme,
Conquer every rebel pow’r.
Let no vice or sin remain
That resist Your holy war.
You have loved and purchased me,
Make me Yours forevermore.

I was blinded by my sin,
Had no ears to hear Your voice,
Did not know Your love within,
Had no taste for heaven’s joys.
Then Your Spirit gave me life,
Opened up Your Word to me,
Through the gospel or Your Son,
Gave me endless hope and peace.

Help me now to live a life
That’s dependent on Your grace.
Keep my heart and guard my soul
From the evils that I face.
You are worthy to be praised
With my every thought and deed.
O great God of highest heav’n,
Glorify Your Name through me

Words and Music: CCLI Song #4804015. Bob Kauflin. ©2006 Sovereign Grace Praise
(Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing (IMI)).

“Oh How Good It Is”

Oh how good it is When the family of God
Dwells together in spirit, In faith, and unity.
Where the bonds of peace, Of acceptance, and love
Are the fruit of His presence Here among us.

Chorus:

*So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord,
And with one heart we'll live out His word,
Till the whole earth sees The Redeemer has come,
For He dwells in the presence of His people.*

Oh how good it is On this journey we share,
To rejoice with the happy And weep with those who mourn.
For the weak find strength, The afflicted find grace,
When we offer the blessing Of belonging.

(Chorus)

Oh how good it is To embrace His command,
To prefer one another, Forgive as He forgives.
When we live as one, We all share in the love
Of the Son with the Father And the Spirit.

(Chorus)

Words and Music: Keith and Kristyn Getty.

 **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** **SONG OF THANKSGIVING**

"Now Thank We All Our God"

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.

 **BENEDICTION**

MINISTRIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Children's Worship Information. Following the Sunday morning worship service, parents will find their children attending Children's Worship in the following rooms:

3K - C224 (available for the entire worship hour)

4K - C221 (available for the entire worship hour)

Kindergarten - C221 (dismissed during Passing of the Peace)

1st through 3rd Grades - C316 (dismissed during Passing of the Peace)

VIBRANT Event. In partnership with Cahaba Park, Covenant is hosting VIBRANT today from 3:30-5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Featuring music from Adam Wright and The Corner Room and art from Wellon Bridgers, this event pairs live painting with the musical settings of hymns and Scripture.

Gospel Manhood. Men, our next Gospel Manhood lunch is this Thursday, November 21 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Sandy Willson be speaking on "The Man and His Country."

Sunday, November 26. On Sunday morning, November 26 we will not meet for our Sunday School hour. Please join us for gathered worship at 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Congregational Meeting | All-Adult Sunday School. On December 3, we will have a Congregational Meeting and All-Adult Sunday School to approve the slate of new church officers and to hear from our Session on the progress that has been made with our Strategic Vision Committee.

Christmas in Fairfield. Christmas in Fairfield is a unique ministry, in partnership with Hope Health Clinic, that provides clothing for children in need and parents an opportunity to shop for and purchase toys for their children at reduced and affordable prices. There are several ways that you and your family can be involved before the event and at the shop on December 8. Please visit our information tables or covpres.com/fairfieldchristmas for more information.

Lovelady Dinner & Concert. Mark your calendars for December 12 to spend the evening with the women of the Lovelady Center. This annual event is a great time of food, fun, and music! Our musical guests this year will be Act of Congress. Please visit covpres.com/lovelady to find out how you can be involved in this special night.

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT: November 19-25, 2017

SUNDAY, November 19

- 8:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship (Commons)
- 9:00 a.m. Gathered Worship (Sanctuary)
Children's Worship | 3 years through 3rd grade
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages and stages
(see page 23 for class details)
- 3:30-5:00 p.m. VIBRANT (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:00 p.m. Sr. and Jr. High Small Groups

MONDAY, November 20

- 8:15 a.m. Women in Prayer (Ingram Link's office, 3rd floor)
- 6:00-7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S103)

TUESDAY, November 21

- 9:30-10:30 a.m. Women's Study: Young Mothers Study (E303)
- 9:30-10:30 a.m. Women's Study: Divine Design Discipleship (S104)
- 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Women's Study: The Book of Romans (Dining Room)
- 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Gospel Manhood: "The Man and His Country," Sandy Willson
(Fellowship Hall)
- 11:30 am.-12:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY, November 23

& FRIDAY, November 24

Offices closed for Thanksgiving holiday

Should you need pastoral assistance after our regular office hours, please contact our pastor on call at 205-874-3559 (Marty Crawford, November 13-19).

FINANCIAL UPDATE *through* October 31, 2017

GENERAL FUND GIVING (181 commitments totaling \$2,306,030)

<u>Budget</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
\$2,782,672	\$2,642,596	\$2,715,356

2017 Operating Surplus/(Deficit): (\$72,760)

2017 Operating Reserve: \$261,971

2017 Line of Credit: \$0

FAITH PROMISE GIVING (83 commitments totaling \$187,711)

<u>Budget</u>	<u>Funds Received</u>	<u>Funds Disbursed</u>
\$172,381	\$225,506	\$172,381

FAITH PROMISE RESERVE: \$107,305

If you have questions regarding the budget, please contact Marty Crawford in the church office or members of the Joint Finance Committee:

Ty Dedmon	Lee Sheppard
Gary Gorham	Todd Sitton
Merrill Johnston	Darrell Tucker
Mark Miller	John Wood

| *The Campaign for Covenant* |

FAITHFUL over a LITTLE

Pledges (252 commitments): **\$3,506,682**

Receipts:	\$2,843,764
Funds from sale of building:	<u>\$1,987,385</u>
Total funds provided:	\$4,831,149
Funds used for debt:	<u>(\$1,983,644)</u>
Funds available:	\$2,847,505
Costs to date:	<u>(\$2,665,490)</u>
Net funds available:	\$182,015

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

10:30 a.m.

Maps and directional signs are located around the church.

COMMUNITY E305	<i>All ages and life stages</i>
CORNERSTONE S104	<i>30s and 40s</i>
CROSSPOINTE S100	<i>20s and 30s</i>
FOUNDATIONS E304	<i>30s and 40s</i>
LIGHTHOUSE E301	<i>30s and 40s</i>
LIVING STONES E303	<i>40s and 50s</i>
KINGDOM BUILDERS E201	<i>40s, 50s, and 60s</i>
OPEN DOORS S105	<i>70s and above</i>
UPPER ROOM S101	<i>50s, 60s, and 70s</i>
THRESHOLD DINING ROOM	<i>Singles and newly married; 20s and 30s</i>
YOUTH YOUTH AREA	<i>Students grades 7-12</i>



"Gloria
in excelsis
Deo!"

CELEBRATE THE SEASON AT COVENANT

SUNDAY MORNINGS IN ADVENT

December 3, 10, 17, & 24*

Gathered Worship ■ 9:00 a.m.

CHORAL ADVENT VESPERS

December 3 ■ 6:00 p.m.

*A special evening worship service featuring "The Straight Highway,"
a presentation from our Chancel and Children's Choirs.*

CHRISTMAS EVE AT COVENANT

Family Candlelight Service ■ 4:30 p.m.

Candlelight and Communion Service ■ 6:00 p.m.

CHRISTMASTIDE SUNDAY

December 31*

Gathered Worship ■ 9:00 a.m.

**No Sunday School*

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Marty Crawford, Church Administrator	mrcrawford@covpres.com
David Driskill, Director of Ministries	ddriskill@covpres.com
Dan Edwards, Pastor to Children and Families	dedwards@covpres.com
Ingram Link, Director of Women's Ministries	ilink@covpres.com
Sandy Willson, Interim Senior Pastor	swillson@covpres.com

MINISTRY AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Rick Barnes, Director of Musical Arts	rbarnes@covpres.com
Jami Bennett, Director of MDO and Nursery Ministries	jbennett@covpres.com
Austin Braasch, Student Ministries Intern	jabraasch129@gmail.com
Katie Caldwell, Director of Design and Production	kcaldwell@covpres.com
Meg Cotney, Financial Secretary	mcotney@covpres.com
Tyler Cuidon, Technical Director	tyler.cuidon@gmail.com
Rachel Davis, Assistant Director of Girls Ministries	shields.rachel.c@gmail.com
Katie Flores, Director of Pre-School Ministries	kflores@covpres.com
Phyllis Hamm, Assistant to Director of Ministries	phamm@covpres.com
Bill Hay, Pastor Emeritus	bhay@covpres.com
Kim Oliver, Assistant to the Interim Senior Pastor	koliver@covpres.com
Sara Litten, Director of Girls Ministries	slitten@covpres.com
Stacey Loyless, Director of Communications and Media	sloyless@covpres.com
Traci Parker, Director of Food Services	tparker@covpres.com
Tyrone Perry, Facilities Manager	tperry@covpres.com
Brooke Stewart, Covenant Day School Director	bstewart@covpres.com
Karan Stuart, Receptionist	kstuart@covpres.com
Laura Tucker, Ministry Assistant, Children & Families	ltucker@covpres.com
Victoria Williams, Pastoral Assistant	vwilliams@covpres.com

RULING ELDERS

2017

Paul Loyless
Russell Martin
Mark Miller
Norman Pless
Charlie Regan
Lee Sheppard
Mark Taylor

2018

AC Frese
Eric Getty
John Hamilton
Daniel Murray
Warren Norville
Jason Peevy
Ben Walker
Clay Wheeler
Charles White

2019

Ty Dedmon
Jeff Dyess
Rick Flynn
Heath Henderson
Tom McKnight
John Smith T
Richard Thompson

DEACONS

2017

Lee Baker
Aaron Coffey
Paul Darden
John Gant
Jonathan Gidley
Grant Haines
John James
Stephen Mince
Carey Rome
Steve Stigler

2018

Brandon Bishop
Nathan Collums
John Harrelson
Randall Lancaster
Matt Searson
Patrick Strong
Darrell Tucker

2019

Jim Bennett
Gary Gorham
Keith Harrelson
Jeff Hayes
Steve Killgore
Steve Pfitzer
Brent Powell
John Shank
Todd Sitton
William Slappey
Billy Tapscott

DAILY WORSHIP RESOURCES

These readings are provided as a personal, family or group worship resource. Use them along with your worship guide as resources for readings, prayers and hymns. Set in the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), a schedule of daily Bible readings in accord with the Church year, these scripture readings are designed around a three-year cycle that will take you through the Old Testament once, the New Testament twice, and the Psalms frequently.

SUNDAY, THE LORD'S DAY • THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

Morning	Psalm 66, 67	1 Chronicles 14:1-17	Luke 16:1-13
Evening	Psalm 19, 46	Acts 28:14b-23	

MONDAY

Morning	Psalm 89:1-18	1 Chronicles 15:1-29	Matthew 17:1-13
Evening	Psalm 89:19-52	Revelation 20:7-15	

TUESDAY

Morning	Psalm 97, 99, 100	1 Chronicles 16:7-36	Matthew 17:14-21
Evening	Psalm 94, 95	Revelation 21:1-8	

WEDNESDAY

Morning	Psalm 101, 109	1 Chronicles 20:1-8	Matthew 17:22-27
Evening	Psalm 119:121-144	Revelation 21:9-21	

THURSDAY

Morning	Psalm 105:1-22	1 Chronicles 21:1-27	Matthew 18:1-9
Evening	Psalm 105:23-45	Revelation 21:22-22:5	

FRIDAY

Morning	Psalm 102	1 Chronicles 22:1-19	Matthew 18:10-20
Evening	Psalm 107:1-32	Revelation 22:6-13	

SATURDAY

Morning	Psalm 107:33-43, 108	Isaiah 65:17-25	Matthew 18:21-35
Evening	Psalm 33	Revelation 22:14-21	

SUNDAY, THE LORD'S DAY • TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Morning	Psalm 118	Isaiah 19:19-25	Luke 19:11-27
Evening	Psalm 145	Romans 15:5-13	