

Thanksgiving Worship Service
Grace Valley CRC November 23, 2020

- Intro- Welcome Pastor Eric—start Youtube
- Praise Team Songs

Part 1

Thanksgiving for God's Care for Creation

Reading #1
A Child's Prayer

**Heavenly Father, thank you for the beauty and wonder of
your great creation. We praise you for the wonderful things
you have given to us:
For the beautiful Sun,
For the rain, which makes things grow,
For the sea and the sky,
For the flowers and the birds,
and for all your gifts to us.
Everything around us rejoices,
Make us also rejoice, and give us thankful hearts,
Amen**

Reading #2

Our world has fallen into sin;
but rebellion and sin can never dethrone God.
He does not abandon the work of his hand;
the heavens still declare his glory.
He preserves his world,
sending seasons, sun, and rain,
upholding his creatures,
renewing the earth,
directing all things to their purpose.
He promised a Savior;
now the whole creation groans
in the birth pangs of a new creation.

Our world belongs to God—
not to us or earthly powers,
not to demons, fate, or chance.
The earth is the Lord's!

God directs and bends to his will
all that happens in his world.
As history unfolds in ways we only know in part,
all things—
from crops to grades,
from jobs to laws—
are under his control.
God is present in our world
by his Word and Spirit.
The faithfulness of our great Provider
gives sense to our days and hope to our years.
The future is secure, for our world belongs to God.

- Resume video
- Reflection on God's Care for Creation
- Questions for thanksgiving—Pause Video

What are your favorite things to do outside?

Are there places in creation where you feel closest to God?
Share an experience or a picture, that caused you to stop in
awe.

Part 2

Thanksgiving for God's Care for our Physical needs

Reading #3

Psalm 107:1-9

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

² Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story—
those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,

³ those he gathered from the lands,
from east and west, from north and south.^[a]

⁴ Some wandered in desert wastelands,
finding no way to a city where they could settle.

⁵ They were hungry and thirsty,
and their lives ebbed away.

⁶ Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.

⁷ He led them by a straight way
to a city where they could settle.

⁸ Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love
and his wonderful deeds for mankind,

⁹ for he satisfies the thirsty
and fills the hungry with good things.

- Reflections on God's care for our Spiritual needs—resume video

- Questions for thanksgiving-Pause Video

What is your favorite meal? What was the best meal you had this year was the best meal you had this year?

Describe a difficult physical challenge you faced this year (sickness, injury, financial hardship, loneliness, isolation, etc)? How did God bring you through it or provide what you needed?

Part 3

Thanksgiving for God's Care for our Spiritual needs

Reading 4

Romans 8:31-39

³¹What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”^[a]

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,^[b] neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- Resume Video – reflections on God’s spiritual care

- Questions for thanksgiving—Pause Video

Describe a spiritual practice that has helped you stay connected to God this year.

Describe a bible verse or story that has been meaningful to you this year.

Our Response

Kayla-video

Aaron video

Prayer of thanksgiving—Pause video in the middle of prayer, resume when finished.

Blessing

Closing Song