

FIRST CHURCH, SARASOTA
Traditional Worship Service
THANKSGIVING SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 22, 2020

Rev. Dr. Sam Wright, Senior Pastor
Michael Stuart, Director of Music/Organist

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CHORAL INTROIT	<i>All That Have Life and Breath, Praise Ye the Lord</i>	Rene Clausen
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS		Donna Maynard, Director of Ministries
OPENING HYMN	<i>Come, Ye Thankful People, Come</i> Lauren Nielsen, song leader	Hymnal 694 ¹
CHILDREN'S MOMENT		Susan Quigley, Director of Children and Youth Ministries
PASTORAL PRAYER		Rev. Dr. Sam Wright
THE LORD'S PRAYER		
CHORAL RESPONSE		
OFFERING OUR GIFTS		
SPECIAL MUSIC	<i>Cigue from Sonata in D Minor</i> Larah Pereira, violin	Francesco Maria Veracini
GOSPEL READING		Matthew 25:31-46 ² Chloe Stuart
CHORAL ANTHEM	<i>I Will Give Thanks</i> Ensemble	Thomas Matthews
THE MESSAGE	<i>Surprise, Surprise!</i>	Rev. Dr. Sam Wright
HYMN OF RESPONSE	<i>We Gather Together</i>	Hymnal 131 ³
BENEDICTION		
CHORAL BENEDICTION	<i>A Gaelic Blessing</i> Lauren Nielsen, soprano	John Rutter
<i>Deep peace of the running wave to you, deep peace of the flowing air to you, deep peace of the quiet earth to you, deep peace of the shining stars to you, deep peace of the gentle night to you. Moon and stars pour their healing light on you. Deep peace of Christ the Light of the world to you. Deep peace of Christ to you.</i>		
PASSING THE PEACE		

¹Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

1. 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.
2. All the world is God's own field, fruit as praise to God we yield; wheat and tares together sown are to joy or sorrow grown; first the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear; Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.
3. For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home; from the field shall in that day all offenses purge away, giving angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast; but the fruitful ears to store in the garner evermore.
4. Even so, Lord, quickly come, bring 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.

²Matthew 25:31-46 (CSB)

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate them one from another, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

“‘For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat; I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink; I was a stranger and you took me in; I was naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me; I was in prison and you visited me.’

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and take you in, or without clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick, or in prison, and visit you?’

“And the King will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

“Then he will also say to those on the left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels! For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat; I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink; I was a stranger and you didn't take me in; I was naked and you didn't clothe me, sick and in prison and you didn't take care of me.’

“Then they too will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or without clothes, or sick, or in prison, and not help you?’

“Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’ And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

³We Gather Together

1. We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; he chastens and hastens his will to make known. The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing. Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.
2. Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining, ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine; so from the beginning the fight we were winning; thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be thine!
3. We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant, and pray that thou still our defender wilt be. Let thy congregation escape tribulation; thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

Thanksgiving Food Boxes for Veterans – THANK YOU!

For the sixth consecutive year the First Church family donated Thanksgiving turkeys and food for 45 veterans and their families! We partner with Goodwill Veterans Services as we express our gratitude to these veterans.

Advent (Zoom) Book Study

- Assistant Pastor for Outreach Woody Woodward will lead a 4-week study on Adam Hamilton's *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*.
- **Begins Monday, November 23, 7 p.m.**
- **Contact Woody (207-831-0888; woodyfwoodward@gmail.com) to get e-book information.**
- Zoom information was sent in Saturday eblast.

Salvation Army Angel Tree

You Make the Difference: Provide Christmas Gifts for a Needy Child

This year we are going to participate again in the Angel Tree Program with The Salvation Army. However, the process will be different. The Salvation Army will purchase the gifts. We hope to sponsor 75 children.

How does it work?

1. Please mail (or put in the Sunday offering) your check made out to First Church with "Angel" in the memo line. (Suggested donation is \$100 per child or any amount you can give.)
2. **Deadline is Tuesday, December 1.**
3. Questions? Paul Anacki (941-955-0935; financial@firstsrq.com)
4. Know that you are providing Christmas gifts for a child who would otherwise go without.

Thank you for your generosity!

Upper Room Devotional Books

November-December copies are still available in the office lobby. If you are coming to in-person worship, you can pick up one for you and a friend. If you are worshiping online, contact the office to get one mailed to you and maybe for a friend also (941-9550935; dadams@firstsrq.com).

Poinsettias to Honor or Remember a Loved One

Go to our events page ~ <https://www.firstsrq.com/events/> ~ to order your poinsettia (\$10 per plant).

Deadline to order is Monday, Decemeber 7.

Children's Sunday School

Kids, welcome back to Sunday School Sunday, December 6! Please contact Susan Quigley at squigley@firstsrq.com for details. Preregistration required.

**Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving
Thursday and Friday, November 26, 27**
