



DOWNTOWN

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“Let all things now living, a song of thanksgiving



To God our creator triumphantly raise!”

Hymn

We Gather Together

KREMSER

1. We gather together to ask for God's blessing;
For God is the maker of heart and of home.
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing
As fear is overcome by the love God has shown.

2. We thank you, O God, for this joy that we witness —
For love and commitment so lasting and strong,
For hope that seeks justice and sings of your promise,
For faith that speaks the truth till the world sings your song.

Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Centering Prayer

Eileen Smith

We are shepherd and sheep, wounded and healer.
In the same Spirit, we are both giver and receiver.
Holy One, you have given us all that we have and all that we are.
We long to be centered in you, the Ground of our Being.

Blow through us with an urgency of gratitude and an
expansion of Thankfulness that call us to seek your gifts among
the changing landscapes of our lives, we humbly ask. Amen.

First Reading

I Thessalonians 5:16-24
from *The Message* translation

Eileen Smith

Hymn 554

Let All Things Now Living

ASH GROVE

1. Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God our creator triumphantly raise.
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
By guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night.
Till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished
As forward we travel from light into light.

*All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of You,
That by caring, helping, giving we may be disciples true.
Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve thee faithfully."*

Text: Percy Dearmer

Prayers of Healing and Transformation

Rev. Swift

Prayer of Jesus

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Spirit 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Spirit, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Now Thank We All Our God NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT
(Music on Next Page)

Benediction (Responsive)

Rev. Swift

One: Using ancient words, may the Lord bless us and keep us,

Many: **May God's face shine upon us and be gracious to us.**

One: May the broad expanse of Thanksgiving love and the abundance of God's riches in glory,

Many: **shape our perspective on our own life and needs, including those things which disappoint us.**

One: May the eyes of our heart be open to all the blessings which surround us;

Many: **may this awareness produce a harvest of generosity in our spirit.**

One: May thankfulness rise up within us, not just during this short season, but day after day,

Many: **from the early morning watch until we retire for the night.**

One: May our prayers reflect gratitude,

Many: while also acknowledging the needs of others whose situations are so drastically different.

One: May thoughts of Jesus fill our mind; may hunger for God drive our soul,

Many: and love for the Spirit guide our speech and our actions.

One: And finally, may the grace, peace, and love of our Creator, the great Mystery,

Many: protect, defend, and empower us to run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Amen.

(adapted from a benediction written by Joe Sherer, pastor of the Mount Joy Mennonite Church, and posted on **A Daily Prayer**.

<http://adailyprayer.wordpress.com/2007/11/16/strangers-in-this-world/>)

Postlude Improvisation on Now Thank We All Our God

Thank you to . . .

Participants: Rev. Deb Swift, Eileen Smith, Bob Richane,
Alan Jones, and Lee Wright

Choir Members: Hannah Stokes, Juli Elliot, Carol Kerner, Emmalouise St. Amand,
Ben Magruder, Dan McInerney, Rob Kerner, and Alan Jones.
Jason Cloen, organ

Sound Engineers: Donald Fairman, David McDowell, and Ben Magruder (Choral Music)
Website integration: Mark Anderson

555

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6

Martin Rinkart, c. 1636

Trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858; alt.
Stanza 3, *Rejoice in the Lord*, 1985

Johann Crüger, 1648

Harm. adapt. *Lobegesang*, Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

1. Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voice,
2. O may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,
3. All praise and thanks to God, Who reigns in highest heaven,

Who wondrous things hath done, In whom this world rejoices;
With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us;
To Father and to Son And Spirit now be given.

Who, from our mothers' arms, Hath blessed us on our way
And keep us in God's grace, And guide us when perplexed,
The one eternal God, Whom heaven and earth adore,

With countless gifts of love, And still is ours to-day.
And free us from all ills In this world and the next.
The God who was, and is, And shall be ever more.

The Downtown Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Pat Youngdahl,
Senior Pastor

The Rev. Kathryn Kelly,
Associate Pastor

Jackie Griffin, Nursery Coordinator

Mark Anderson, Director of Operations

Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor

Ed Verna, Maintenance

Moses Nhial, Maintenance

Robert Clement, Maintenance

Dr. Lee S. Wright,

Director of Music Ministry

Jason Cloen, Associate Musician

Alan Jones, Associate Musician

Penny Crudup, Church Secretary

David Mear, Business Manager

Teresa Ward, Bookkeeper

& Receptionist Coordinator

Keisha Betts, Receptionist

Theresa Reddick, Receptionist

Parish Leaders

John DeHority, Bill Mackey, Co-clerks of Session

Joan Mackey, Moderator of Deacons

121 N. Fitzhugh Street, Rochester, NY 14614

Telephone: (585) 325-4000 ~ Fax: (585) 325-6023

E-Mail: office@DowntownPresbyterian.org

www.DowntownPresbyterian.org

