

FEASTING WITH FRIENDS (Every Moment Holy, pg 121-134)

Celebrant: To gather joyfully in this season of thanksgiving indeed a serious affair, for feasting and all enjoyments gratefully taken are, at their heart, acts of war.

People: In celebrating this Thanksgiving season we declare that evil and death, suffering and loss, sorrow and tears, will not have the final word.

But the joy of fellowship, the allure of gratitude and the welcome and comfort of friends new and old, and the celebration of these blessings are the true evidences of things eternal, and are the first fruits of that great glad joy that is to come in that will be unending. And it is in that hope we give thanks.

So let our feasting this week be joined to those sure victories secured by Christ, for Him we are thankful.

Let this holiday season now be a delight, and a glad foretaste of his eternal Kingdom.

You have blessed us, O Lord, we are grateful.

Bless us, O Lord, as we linger over our tables laden with good things, as we relished the delights of your kindness and grace. Let these times of celebration be made sweeter by the communion of saints and the reconnection with family and friends.

May the shared meals and our gratitude bear witness against the artifice and deceptions of the prince of the darkness that would blind this world of hope.

May our gratitude strike at the root of the lie that would drain life of meaning, in the world of joy, and suffering of redemption.

May these feasts of gratitude fall like a great hammer blow against that brittle night, shattering the gloom, reawakening our hearts, stirring our imaginations, focusing our vision

on the Kingdom of heaven that is to come, on the Kingdom that is promised,

on the Kingdom that is already, indeed, among us, for the resurrection of all good things has already joyfully begun.

May this week be an echo of the great Supper of the lamb, a foreshadowing of the great celebration that awaits the children of God.

Where two or more of us are gathered, O Lord, there you have promised to be.

And here we are.

And so, here are you. Take joy, O King,

Take joy, O King! Take joy!

All will be well!

All will be well!

Nothing good and right and true will be lost forever. All good things will be restored. Take joy, little flock. Take joy! Let battle be joined!

Let battle be joined!

Now you, who are loved by the Father, prepare your hearts and give yourselves wholly to this time of Thanksgiving, to the glad company of saints, family and friends, to the comforting fellowship of the Spirit, and to the abiding presence of Christ who among us both as our host and our honored guests, and still yet as our conquering king.

O LORD, WE ARE GRATEFUL! WE ARE BLESSED! YOU ARE GOOD!

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, we enter this Thanksgiving season!

Amen.

Today I am grateful for		
	sunday,	Nov.
	Monday.	Nov.
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	Wednesday Nov. 2	(1)
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	Friday, N
	LORD, for He is good 1 Chronicles 16:34

		Saturday, Nov. 26
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	First Sunday in Advent	Sunday, Nov. 27
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Advent means "coming." The observance of the season of Advent dates back to the fourth century. Historically, Advent has been a time to focus on the prophecy, birth, and mission of Jesus, as well as His Second Coming. Advent lasts four weeks and ends on December 25th with the celebration of the birth of Jesus, the Son of God.

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Wednesday, Nov. 30
But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:57
Thursday, Dec. 1

Friday, Dec.
Saturday, Dec.

Second Sunday in Advent	Sunday, Dec.
Devote yourselves to prayer, being Colossians 4:2	g watchful and thankful.
	Monday, Dec.

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_	Thursday, Dec. 8
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	This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24
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		Saturday, Dec. 10
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	Third Sunday in Advent	
	Third Sunday in Advent	Sunday, Dec. 11

Monday, Dec. 1.
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	Thursday, k	Dec. 15

	Friday, Dec. 1
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	Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good. His love endures forever. Psalm 136:1
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	Fourth Sunday in Advent	sunday,	Vec.	18
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	Tnesday, Dec. 20
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	Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:15
	Wednesday, Dec. 21
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	Wednesday, Dec. 21

	Thursday, Dec.
	Friday, Dec. 2
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	Friday, Dec. 2

	Saturday, Dec. 24
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	I'm thankful for the birth of Jesus! (Matthew 1:18-25)
	Simday, Dec. 25
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