

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Tuesday, November 24, 2015

7:00 p.m.

at The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer



Giving thanks to God as we honor and support our three local shelter programs:

The Abuse Prevention Council,
(shelter for battered women & children)

Cleveland Co Rescue Mission
(men's homeless shelter)

Heart to Heart Place,
(CCRM's women's shelter)

A love offering will also be taken up and shared equally among these programs.

Refreshments and fellowship follow the service downstairs in the Parish Hall. Join us and learn more about these agencies and the important services they provide to the needy among us.

Presented by
Christian Ministerial Association, The Rev. Len Byers, Convener
The Women Pastors Association, Bp. Carolyn Briggs, Convener

Please silence all cell phones and pagers. Thank you!

PRELUDE

Matthew Lineberger, Organist
The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Shelby

WELCOME:

The Rev. Dr. Valori Mulvey Sherer, Rector
The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Shelby

OPENING PRAYER:

Bishop Carolyn Briggs, Pastor
Living Waters Christian Ministries, Shelby

HYMN OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING (Traditional - announced)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Pastor Christina Auch,
Ascension Lutheran, Shelby

HYMN OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING (Pentecostal)

THE WORD OF GOD IN SCRIPTURE

Reader: Turner White
A Glimpse of the Kingdom Ministries City Shelby

Reader: A Reading from the book of Joel:

Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has done great things! Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield. O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the LORD your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God!

A WORD OF THANKSGIVING:

Cathy Robertson, Executive Director
Cleveland County Abuse Prevention Council

PSALM 145 **Exaltabo te, Deus**

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
 and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you *
 and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
 there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another *
 and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
 and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
 and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
 they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *
 slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 The Lord is loving to everyone *
 and his compassion is over all his works.
- 10 All your works praise you, O Lord, *
 and your faithful servants bless you.
- 11 They make known the glory of your kingdom *
 and speak of your power;
- 12 That the peoples may know of your power *
 and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

(Continues next page)

- 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; *
your dominion endures throughout all ages.
- 14 The Lord is faithful in all his words *
and merciful in all his deeds.
- 15 The Lord upholds all those who fall; *
he lifts up those who are bowed down.
- 16 The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, *
and you give them their food in due season.
- 17 You open wide your hand *
and satisfy the needs of every living creature.
- 18 The Lord is righteous in all his ways *
and loving in all his works.
- 19 The Lord is near to those who call upon him, *
to all who call upon him faithfully.
- 20 He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; *
he hears their cry and helps them.
- 21 The Lord preserves all those who love him, *
but he destroys all the wicked.
- 22 My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord; *
let all flesh bless his holy Name for ever and ever.

A WORD OF THANKSGIVING:

The Rev. Michael Gullatte, CCRM Executive Director
Cleveland County Rescue Mission Men's Homeless Shelter
Pastor , Christ for the Nations Church

THE WORD OF GOD IN SCRIPTURE

Reader: Rev. Claude London
A Glimpse of the Kingdom Ministries, Shelby

Reader: A Reading from the first letter to the Thessalonians:

But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters,² to respect those who labor among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And

we urge you, beloved,^o to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint-hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets,^o but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound^o and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God!

HYMN OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING (Pentecostal)

A WORD OF THANKSGIVING: Jocelyn Hill, Dir. of Community Development, CCRM
Heart to Heart Place, Cleveland County Rescue Mission Women's Homeless Shelter

HYMN OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING (Traditional - announced)

THE GOOD NEWS IN SCRIPTURE

Reader: Pastor Lillie Smith
Jesus Way Ministries, Shelby

Reader: A reading from the Gospel of John.

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." ' Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which^o comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.' Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God!

HOMILY: Minister Patricia Epps, Glimpse of the Kingdom Ministries, Shelby

ANTHEM OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING (Pentecostal)

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Dale Peele Sneed
Durham & Philadelphia United Methodist Church

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side. We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us. We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone. Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. *Amen.*

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea. *We thank you, Lord.*

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ, *We thank you, Lord.*

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends, *We thank you, Lord.*

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve, *We thank you, Lord.*

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play, *We thank you, Lord.*

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity, *We thank you, Lord.*

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice, *We thank you, Lord.*

For the communion of saints, in all times and places, *We thank you, Lord.*

Above all, we give thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;
To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

ALMSGIVING – A collection will now be taken up. Your gifts will be shared equally among our three shelter programs.. Thank you for your generosity.

HYMN OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING (Traditional - announced)

The Lord's Prayer

Our father, who art in heaven hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come they will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and, the glory, now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER:

Pastor Harry Gregory
Beulahland Christian Church, Shelby

HYMN OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING (Pentecostal)

BLESSING THE GIFTS :

Pastor Deborah Lesenger
John Knox Presbyterian Church, Shelby

BLESSING THE PEOPLE:

Rev. Arthur Holland, Pastor
Lafayette Street United Methodist Church, Shelby

CONCLUDING HYMN (Traditional – announced)

DISMISSAL:

The Rev. Pam Bright, Deacon
Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Shelby

POSTLUDE

Matthew Lineberger, Organist
Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Shelby

*Please join us downstairs for refreshments following the service.
Please introduce yourself to someone you don't know, make a new connection
and speak with the representatives from*

The Abuse Prevention Council,
(shelter for homeless/battered women and children)

Cleveland Co Rescue Mission
(men's homeless shelter)

&

Heart to Heart Place,
(CCRM's women's shelter)

for information on the good work they do in our community.