

Praying

Call to Prayer *"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"* Black hymnal 2193

Sharing Joys and Concerns and Thanksgivings

(After each joy or concern, we sing *"Lord, listen to your children praying ..."*)

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer (sing responsively) Black hymnal 2278

***Passing the Peace**

Listening

The Psalter Psalm 100 Red hymnal 821(R1)

The Christian Scriptures Philippians 4:4-9 Ruth Yan

Hymn of Thanksgiving *"His Eye is On the Sparrow"* Black hymnal 2146

The Christian Gospel Matthew 6:25-33 Steve Braudt

Anthem Chapel Ringers Bell Choir, First UMC
"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" – arr. Moklebust
"Grazioso" – Arnold Sherman

Sermon "Five Kernels of Corn" Steve Williams

Sermon Response *"Give Thanks"* Black hymnal 2036

Responding to the Word

Offertory Sentence Carolyn Clear

The Bible calls us not so much to be thankful for something but thankful in something. In bounty or in want we are invited to be thankful. In feast or in famine we are called to be thankful. There is a big difference between being thankful for things and being thankful in all things. Martin Rinkert was a minister in the little town of Eilenburg, Germany some 350 years ago. He was the son of a poor coppersmith, but somehow, he managed to work his way through an education. In 1617 he was offered the post of Archdeacon in his hometown parish. A year later the Thirty-Years-War broke out. His town was caught right in the middle. In 1637 the massive plague that swept across the continent hit Eilenburg. People died at the rate of fifty a day and the man called upon to bury most of them was Martin Rinkert. In all over 8,000 died, including Martin's wife. His ministry spanned 32 years, all but the first and last overwhelmed by the great conflict that engulfed his town. Tough circumstances in

which to be thankful, but he managed. He wrote the words to our closing hymn, "*Now Thank We All Our God.*" Martin Rinkert teaches us to be thankful in the worst of times.

Offertory "Offertory" Early American Melody
(Our offering tonight goes to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank.)

***Dedication Hymn** "Seek Ye First" Red hymnal 405

***Thanksgiving Litany** Chad Lierman

Leader: For all nations of the world that they may be good stewards of the earth and employ wise practices as they bring forth food.

All: Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Leader: For your body, the church, that we may share the Gospel as we work for justice for all of your creation that reaches beyond our communities into rural communities, into the family farm, into the homes of farm workers, into wildlife habitat, into the air, the water, the soil, the seed.

All: Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Leader: For our congregation and congregations in rural communities that we may recognize and minister to those who cannot support a family, who suffer the threat of foreclosure, and other kinds of economic dislocation in our society.

All: Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Leader: For the farmers and people in farm-related businesses who suffer from depression and feelings of powerlessness.

All: Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Leader: For rural and small town communities, especially that we all may work together to build a sustainable future where the food we eat is as good and honorable as God's creation that makes our food possible.

All: Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Leader: For those who farm the land, that they may see their labor as participation in God's creative activity in the world.

All: Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Leader: For the hungry, that they may not be forgotten as we work for justice for farmers.

All: Lord, Hear Our Prayer. Amen.

Going Forth

***Closing Song** "Now Thank We All Our God" Red hymnal 102

***Sending Forth** Marvin Clear

Leader: Knowing that God's abundant love goes with us, let us step out into the fields of compassion, speaking good news to the farmers and laborers amongst us.

All: Guide us in compassion, Spirit of God.

Leader: Let us embrace God's whole creation—animals, plants, land, water, and air.

All: Guide us in love, Spirit of God.

Leader: Knowing that we already have been shown how to live justly through Jesus Christ, let us step out in confidence and commitment.

All: Guide us towards justice, Spirit of God.

Leader: Knowing that the Holy Spirit will go with us to encourage, challenge, and sustain us, let us never fail to live and act as we are called.

All: Guide us in action, Spirit of God.

*Blessing Response	"Give Thanks"	Black hymnal 2036
*Postlude	"Ave Verum"	W. Mozart

* = The Congregation is invited to stand

You are all invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall
immediately following this service for a time of fellowship and refreshment.

**Cedar Falls United Methodist Churches and Other Ministries
Participating in this Service**

First United Methodist Church
St. Timothys United Methodist Church
Washington Chapel United Methodist Church
UNI Wesley Foundation

Clergy Participating in this Service

Steve Braudt, First UMC
Dick Clark, St. Timothys UMC
Carolyn Clear, First UMC
Marvin Clear, First UMC
Dave Glenn-Burns, Wesley Connection
Chad Lierman, First UMC
Sue Mutchler, Washington Chapel UMC
Steve Williams, First UMC
Ruth Yan, St. Timothys UMC

Organist – Weiqing (Jessie) Tang **Pianist** – Linda Clark

Chapel Ringers Bell Choir Director – Aaron Hansen

Ushers – Bob Clark, Kent Shankle **Greeters** – Wayne & Jan Anderson

Altar visuals – Ginny Rule

Thank you to Carmen Darrow for coordinating the refreshments.

Have a safe and blessed Thanksgiving Season!