

'Lord, purge our eyes to see  
within the seed a tree,  
Within the glowing egg a bird,  
Within the shroud a butterfly,  
Til, taught by such, we see  
beyond all creatures, thee.'

Leader: For the beauty of a country scene

All: We praise you Lord for sight

Leader: For the coolness of a mountain stream

All: We praise you Lord for touch

Leader: For nightingale in tuneful flow

All: We praise you Lord for ears

Leader: For the taste of fruit that we have grown

All: We praise you Lord for senses

With our whole heart,  
our whole soul,  
our whole mind,  
with our whole strength and fortitude  
with our whole understanding  
with all our powers  
with every effort,  
every affection,  
every feeling,  
every desire and wish  
let us all love the Lord God  
who has given and gives to each one of us  
our whole body, our whole soul and our whole life.

#### Closing Prayer:

Wherever we are,  
in every place,  
at every hour,  
at every time of the day,  
every day and continually,  
let all of us truly and humbly believe,  
hold in our heart and love,  
honor, adore, serve,  
praise and bless,  
glorify and exalt,  
magnify and give thanks  
to the Most High and Supreme Eternal God  
Trinity and Unity,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
Creator of all,  
Savior of all,  
who believe and hope in him,  
and love him, who,  
without beginning and end,  
is unchangeable, invisible,  
indescribable, ineffable,  
incomprehensible, unfathomable,  
blessed, praiseworthy,  
glorious, exalted,  
sublime, most high,  
gentle, lovable, delightful,  
and totally desirable, above all else  
forever, Amen.

## opening prayer

Let us give thanks to the Lord, for he  
satisfies the thirsty, he fills the hungry with  
good things, and he heals the afflicted. Let  
us celebrate his abundant goodness.

We thank you, gracious Father, that you  
provide for all our needs, for food on our  
tables, for the clothes on our bodies, for the  
beds we sleep in, for the dwellings that  
shelter us.

We praise you, Lord, for all your gifts that  
go beyond our basic needs, for the things  
that make our work easier, for the  
conveniences of modern life, for the beauty  
and pleasure that you bring into our lives.

Thanks be to God!



# common meal.

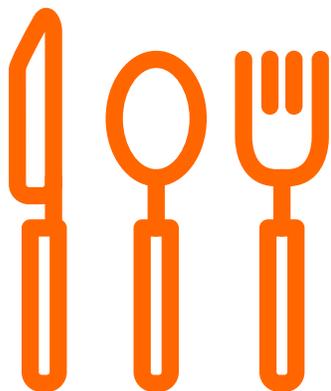
Litany of Thanksgiving

Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings.

- William Arthur Ward -

Let us join our hands and hearts in gratitude on this wondrous day, where we have the abundance of our lives before us. We remember on this day of bounty all of those who do not have enough, who are afraid, who are lonely, and who suffer. We wish for the abundance of this world to be shared, for fear to become love, for the lonely to feel welcomed, and for the suffering to know rest and joy. For the labors, the love, the care that gave us the delights of this and every day, we say "Thanks!" For the nourishment of our spirit, the challenges that strengthen us, and the friends we have on the journey, we sing "Thanks!" For all that is our lives, for these good gifts, we whisper, "Thanks!" Overflowing with gratitude, let us shout, "Thanks!" Amen.

- Naomi King -



## common meal.

Litany of Thanksgiving

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

For the wide sky and the blessed sun,  
For the salt sea and the running water,  
For the everlasting hills  
And the never-resting winds,  
For trees and the common grass underfoot.  
We thank you for our senses  
By which we hear the songs of birds,  
And see the splendor of the summer fields,  
And taste of the autumn fruits,  
And rejoice in the feel of the snow,  
And smell the breath of the spring.  
Grant us a heart wide open to all this beauty;  
And save our souls from being so blind  
That we pass unseeing  
When even the common thornbush  
Is aflame with your glory,  
O God our creator,  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
- Walter Rauschenbusch

## The Words of Thanksgiving

The Words of Thanksgiving for The Good Earth  
(food, water, trees, air, beach, meadows, mountains)

The Words of Thanksgiving for Institutional Involvements  
(work, service organizations, schools)

The Words of Thanksgiving for Interpersonal Relationships  
(family, friends, diversity, new acquaintances)

The Words of Thanksgiving for Spiritual Resources  
(faith, home church community, scriptures, teachers, music)

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

Today, I make my Sacrament of Thanksgiving.  
I begin with the simple things of my days:  
Fresh air to breathe,  
Cool water to drink,  
The taste of food,  
The protection of houses and clothes,  
The comforts of home.  
For all these I make an act of Thanksgiving this day!  
- Howard Thurman

## The Communal Prayer

(repeat three times slowly)  
Breathing in: "I stand in awe..."  
Breathing out: "...of all creation."