



**WORSHIP OF GOD | NOVEMBER 23, 2025**

**First Rochester | An American Baptist Church**

**175 Allens Creek Road | Rochester, New York 14618 | [rochesterfbc.org](http://rochesterfbc.org)**

**Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon, senior pastor | Eliecia Young, pastoral assistant**

**Joshua Johnstone, music director | Samuel Baker, organist**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Feel free to use any gender-neutral language in hymns or responses.*

Prelude	<i>Come, Ye Thankful People, Come**</i>	Charles Callahan
Chiming of the Hour		
Welcome and Invocation		David Hood
Music For Welcoming	<i>Pine Apple Rag</i>	Scott Joplin
Invitation To Worship		David Hood
One:	The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,	
All:	<b>We give thanks for creation's abundance.</b>	
One:	God gathers us from many places and experiences,	
All:	<b>We give thanks for community and shared life.</b>	
One:	In every breath, we find God's Spirit renewing us,	
All:	<b>We lift our hearts in gratitude and praise!</b>	

*Hymn	<i>Come, Ye Thankful People, Come</i>	#721
Gratitude Reflection #1		Bridget Schultz
Scripture	<i>Psalm 100</i>	David Hood
Gratitude Reflection #2		Bob Oaks
Morning Prayer: Sharing our joys and concerns, litany and Unison Lord's Prayer		
Eliecia Young		
One:	Creating God, we thank you for making the fruitful earth produce what is needed for life.	
All:	<b>Bless those who work in the fields; grant that we may all share the fruits of the earth, rejoicing in your goodness.</b>	
One:	Gracious God, when you open your hand, you satisfy the desire of every living thing.	
All:	<b>Bless the land and the waters and give the world a plentiful harvest.</b>	
One:	Let your spirit go forth to renew the face of the earth.	
All:	<b>Bless us all so that, as you show us your love and kindness in the bounty of the land and sea, your spirit might save us from the selfish use of your gifts.</b>	
One:	Glorious God, according to your wisdom, the deep waters are opened up and the clouds drop gentle moisture.	
All:	<b>We praise you for the return of planting and harvest seasons.</b>	
One:	For the fertility of the soil,	

*\*please stand if able*  
*\*\*Thanksgiving Suite*

**All: For the harvesting of the crops, and for all the other blessings which you, in your generosity, pour out for your people.**

One: We lift our prayers for specific people and situations into you in this time of silence.

Some of today's litany *Harvest Time* was originally used in "A Festival of the Harvest," held on October 17, 2005 in Marquand Chapel at Yale Divinity School. It is part of the collection in *The Wideness of God's Mercy* edited by Jeffery W. Rowthorn (New York: Church Publishing, 2007).

Children's Time Eliecia Young

\*Hymn *Spirit of the Living God* #492

Gratitude Reflection #3 Dara Lewis

Gratitude Reflection #4 Daryl Hunt

Special Music *In the Bread Broken* Mary Kay Beall  
First Rochester Choir

Gratitude Reflection #5 Eliecia Young

Giving our Gifts to God and Dedication

Music for Response *Morning Has Broken\*\** C. Callahan

\*Doxology *Give Thanks*

***Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks for the Holy One,  
give thanks because he has given Jesus Christ, his Son;  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich,"  
because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks.***

Invitation to Mission and Ministry Eliecia Young

\*Closing Hymn *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* #72

Benedictory Litany

One: Bless all of us who gather here.

**All: Bless those who cannot gather.**

One: Bless those who face transition.

**All: Bless those who fear newness.**

One: Bless those in times of stress.

**All: Bless us when we struggle and yearn.**

One: Loving God, bless us in all of our seasons and give us a full understanding of our mercy.

**All: And bless the world so that your children everywhere may give you thanks, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Postlude *We Gather Together & Now Thank We All Our God\*\** C. Callahan

*\*please stand if able  
\*\* Thanksgiving Suite*

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## INVITATION TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

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***We welcome you to First Rochester, regardless of race, class, gender, physical challenge, place of origin, or sexual orientation. If you're new with us, please fill out the connection card found in your pew and drop it with the offering. We look forward to getting to know you better!***

### **TODAY:**

- Thank you to the numerous volunteers who make Sunday worship and programs work and especially those who presented Gratitude Reflections today and baritone, Finn Bucci.
- Our Children will leave following the Children's Time for Sunday School.
- Following worship, join us in the Garden Room, adjacent to the sanctuary, for fellowship.
- Children's Choir will be held following a brief fellowship.
- Today, the Youth Group will meet during Second Hour in Room 14, Education Wing.
- Join us at our Harvest Luncheon, prepared by the OWLS, at noon today in Hubbell Hall. Everyone is welcome!

### **THIS WEEK:**

- November 25 Book Club will discuss *Things We Cannot Say*, by Kelly Rimmer. Brown-bag lunch 11:30 AM, with discussion at noon.
- There will be no Wednesday program on November 26. Happy Thanksgiving!
- Asbury First will host this year's Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at 11 AM on November 27.
- There will be no OWLS program on Thanksgiving Day.
- The church office will be closed on Wednesday, November 26 through Friday, November 28 for Thanksgiving Day and staff PTO.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- On December 3, 10, & 17 on campus at 6 PM, we will discuss our Advent readings from D. Bonhoeffer's book, *God Is in the Manger: Reflections on Advent and Christmas*. To order a book, whether for discussion or your own reflection, sign up in the Garden Room.
- Advent Music will be performed by our First Rochester Choir on December 7 during worship.
- Join our wrapping party in the parlor on December 7-2nd Hour-for the CCM's family gifts.
- Our Children's Christmas Program will be during worship on December 14 and followed by a Christmas luncheon. Please sign up in the Garden Room for ordering and seating numbers.
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held on Wednesday, December 24 at 5:00 PM.
- There will be limited office hours from December 26 through January 1. Please call before if you need access to the church.

### **GIVING:**

- For our Fifth Sunday Mission Project at the end of worship on November 30, we will pack snack kits for Cameron Community's Street Ministry.
- On Communion Sunday, December 7, the Missions Team is asking the congregation to donate jams, jellies, and Chef Boyardee products for the Center for Youth.
- Please remember to bring the Cameron Star gifts to the church by December 7. Next, we need to decorate the tree with hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves that we will give to Cameron's clients, also by December 7. Let's see if we can fill the Giving Tree in just two more weeks!

### **SIGN-UPS:**

- Check out the table in the Garden Room for various sign-ups. **We are in great need of ushers**, along with participation counts for the BBQ Christmas luncheon next month, and those who want a Bonhoeffer Advent Reflection Book.