

One day, Karl noticed that the people in the garden were particularly busy. They were gathering fruits and vegetables and carrying them in baskets to the small village church. Karl wondered what was going on. Then he heard a friendly tomato named Tina explain to him: “It’s almost Thanksgiving! People thank God for the rich harvest and celebrate together.”

Karl was excited. He had heard of this festival but had never participated in it. He asked Tina, “What happens at Thanksgiving?”

Tina smiled and said, “People bring the best fruits and vegetables to the church to thank God. They decorate the altar and hold a service. After that, they share the food with each other and also give some to those who have less.”

Karl was thrilled. He wanted to be part of this special festival. And indeed, the next day, he was carefully picked by the people and brought to the church. There, he was placed on the altar along with many other fruits and vegetables. Karl felt honored and proud.

During the service, Karl heard people singing songs and saying prayers. They thanked God for the rich harvest and remembered how important it was to share and protect the gifts of nature. Karl felt warm and happy. He knew he was part of something big and wonderful.

After the service, Karl saw people sharing the food and laughing. He saw children like Max and Lena running around happily and enjoying the festival. Karl knew that he had helped make this festival special.

And so, Thanksgiving ended, and Karl the pumpkin was happy to have been part of this beautiful tradition. He knew he was not just a pumpkin but a symbol of gratitude and sharing.

### **What is Thanksgiving?**

Thanksgiving is a festival where people thank God for the fruits of the field, the fruits, the vegetables, and the daily bread. In many churches, altars are decorated with colorful fruits, vegetables, and flowers.

### **Why do Christians celebrate Thanksgiving?**

Christians celebrate Thanksgiving to express their gratitude for the harvest and the gifts of nature. They remember that everything they need to live comes from God. It is also a time to reflect on the responsibility people have for creation.

### **How is Thanksgiving celebrated?**

- **Services:** In churches, there are special services where songs are sung and prayers are said to thank God.
- **Harvest Crown:** A harvest crown made of grain and flowers is often tied as a symbol of gratitude and placed in the church.
- **Sharing:** Many Christians also use the festival to collect food and share it with people who have less.

## History of the Thanksgiving Festival

The Thanksgiving festival has very old roots. Even in the Bible, there are stories of people thanking God for the harvest. Similar festivals existed in other cultures and religions, where people thanked their gods for the harvest.

Thanksgiving is thus a festival of gratitude and sharing, where Christians thank God for the abundance of nature and become aware of their responsibility for creation.

### St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Ingrid Doerschel

Phone (604) 566-2102

E-mail: [pastor@stmarkschurch.ca](mailto:pastor@stmarkschurch.ca)

Office Phone (604) 876-4312

E-mail: [office@stmarkschurch.ca](mailto:office@stmarkschurch.ca)

1573 E. 18th Avenue, Vancouver,  
BC V5N 2H4

[www.stmarkschurch.ca](http://www.stmarkschurch.ca)

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## Church for Kids Thanksgiving



In a large, sunny garden, there grew a small pumpkin named Karl. Karl was a cheerful pumpkin who loved lying in the warm sun and listening to the birds sing. Every day, he grew a little more and became rounder and stronger.