

Thyme Savor

by Ucaimhu

Our last Friendsgiving was a while ago; this puzzle serves as a quick reminder of how to experience a range of delightful foods at such a gathering. Each Across answer must be altered before entry in one of three apt ways:

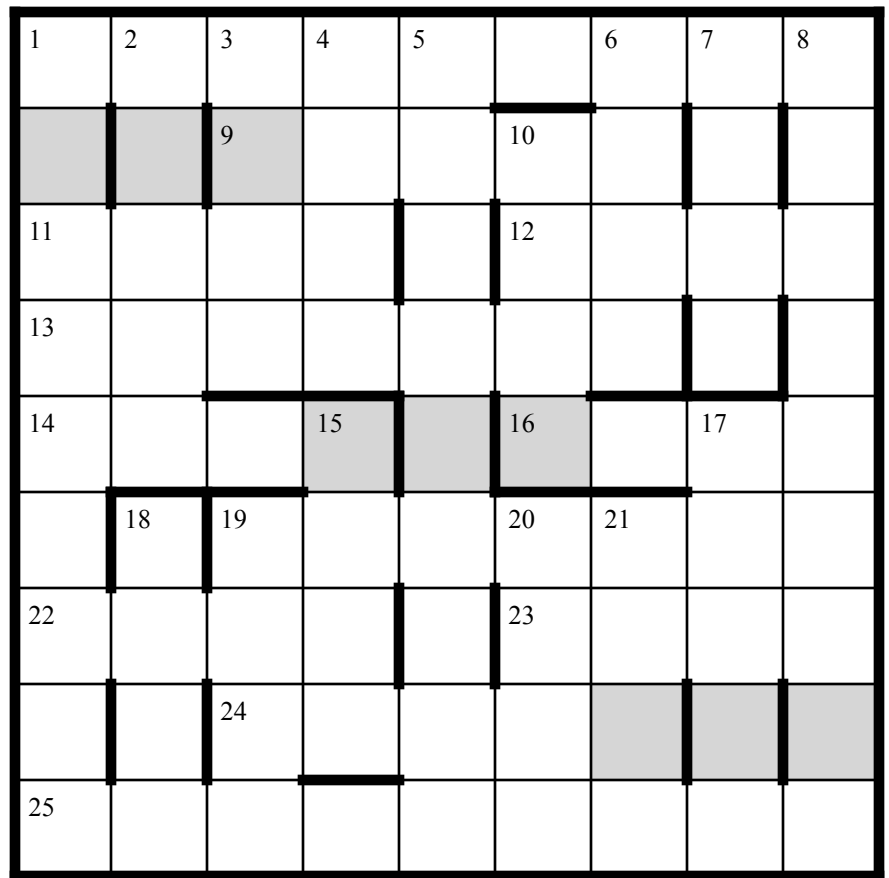
Sample each food. In four cases, you must enter a “core sample” of the answer (the answer with its first and last letters removed).

Randomize your selections. In four cases, the answer must be anagrammed.

Enjoy the flavors. In four cases, you must prepend salt or pepper to the answer.

One altered entry will be capitalized, and one will be hyphenated; also, a sequence of one or more words in each Across clue will form a straight clue for its altered entry.

In the filled grid, the three shaded words will allude to these boldfaced steps; said in order, they will say what separates this Friendsgiving from the last one. Also, each Down clue has an extra letter, to be deleted before solving; in clue order, they will define this separator, and also say what would make this meal slightly outdo a popular fast food chain, tastewise.



ACROSS

1. Total defeat primarily caused by yelling at . . .
9. . . . singer from the congregation and bishop going to port location for additional worshippers (*hyph.*)
11. Most otherworldly celebration involveth those that read this clue
12. Age of kinda draftable Ohio lineman at the end
13. More than one smelly substance is disturbing steers
14. Commotion about real plutonium boat propeller
16. East of quad, near fish cart
19. Retro '60s drug taken by Mr. Brooks to cure ailments
22. The thirteenth that starts to allot spears and standards
23. Gardner assumes “liquid” to be Edison’s middle name
24. Every individual backer in foray!
25. Prophet gyrates around Anglican site’s empty niches

DOWN

1. Stooges circling around Edo were volunteers (7 2)
2. Sand person perhaps tossed king of Spain a soda (5)
3. Wheat grains pumpernickel has are hulled? Sure (4)
4. Done obstructing E Street towards 3:00 (4)
5. Dissolve bale in aloe-like stuff the owner can sell (9)
6. Rotate the zeta in “Brinker, McKellen & Holm” (4)
7. Carole Redbone, who sang towards heaven (4)
8. Damn grads confused many a mother’s man (9)
10. Conservative resembling a craggy shill? (4)
15. Puccini’s emulating Al, and Ace is getting eliter (4)
17. Show about Avery disheartened usherette (5)
18. Scarry ursine (4)
19. Shell quartet of cocoa seeds (4)
20. Bless William’s band things (4)
21. Shear something puzzling slugger Willie (4)