

NOVEMBER 24, 2022  
THANKSGIVING DAY



*Giving praise and thanks to the Lord.*

### THANKSGIVING DAY BIBLE READINGS

Take time to read and reflect on these Bible passages as part of your Thanksgiving Day observance.

Thursday	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Rejoice in what God has given
	Psalms 100	Make a joyful noise
	Philippians 4:4-9	Pray with thanksgiving
	John 6:25-35	Jesus is the bread of life

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THANKSGIVING DAY

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name. For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. Psalm 100:4-5 (NRSV)*

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### **A Prayer for Thanksgiving Day:**

Dear God, we give you thanks for the fruit of the earth that keeps us alive and blesses us that we may bless others through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, for this meal we thank you and remember your goodness and love that never ends. Bless, protect, and feed the hungry, the homeless and all those in need. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the God who protects and loves you give you joy.



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### HYMN FOR THANKSGIVING DAY



*Praise God from Whom  
All Blessings Flow*

### THANKSGIVING DAY MILESTONES



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

### CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What are some of the things you are thankful for from this past year?
- How do you show thanks and praise to God for what you have been given?

### DEVOTIONS



*Read:* Deuteronomy 26:1-11.

When the pilgrims came to America, they may have had a text like Deuteronomy 26 in mind. Both the Israelites and the pilgrims were a wandering people. They were foreigners experiencing affliction, toil, and oppression. Both groups could recall that God kept them safe and blessed them. As God's people today, we are to give thanks and be reminded of our need for God-given care. In Deuteronomy 26, the people celebrate with the priests [Levites] and others in their midst, people who remind them of their own history of being immigrants and afflicted. We are reminded that we all need God's mercy to survive and thrive. God's word and command to give thanks is also a judgment on the times throughout our histories that we have neglected to give thanks and care for all people. To give thanks is to recall the history of what God has done and what we are called to do now.

*Discuss:* How can you give thanks and show care for all people—including strangers—as a way to give thanks for God's steadfast love?

*Pray: God of justice and mercy, we thank you for your care for us that is never-ending. Give us thankful hearts that reach out to others with love through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.*

### SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Thanksgiving Day Bible Readings and theme for this day, how can you share the blessings you have received from the Lord with those in need?

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



A thankful heart is a way of life, not just a one-day recollection. Cut out a paper heart. On one side, make a list of the ways God cares for you. This is a way to show a thankful heart. On the other side, identify ways you can show God's love for others. This is a way to help others be thankful. Read and talk about both lists to those with whom you dine on Thanksgiving Day. Conclude by praying the Lord's Prayer together.

