

⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. (Phil 4: 6)

Dear Friends,

The first Pilgrims came to America and began the tradition we call Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is not uniquely an American holiday, it is celebrated all around the world on different dates. For example, Canada's Day of Thanksgiving is in October. Other nations, such as Germany, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom all have similar observances only at different times in the year. The purpose of Thanksgiving is to reflect upon one's blessings so that one is moved to be grateful.

In the Old Testament, God commands His people to give thanks. Give thanks to the Lord for He is good. Moses instructed the people of Israel to give thanks, by first remembering what the Lord had done for the people of Israel. Moses reminded the people that they were slaves in Egypt, but God heard their cry and delivered them, granting them freedom and eventually would lead them to the Promised Land.

As Christians, to give thanks, then, is to first of all, remember. Remember what God has done for you in Jesus Christ. Then, in remembering the blessings of God in Jesus, we can give thanks to God for His goodness and mercy, for His forgiveness and eternal life, and for all of His earthly blessings.

So pause and remember what God has given to you. And give thanks to the Lord for He is good. His mercy lasts forever. And because His mercy lasts forever, our thanks to God is a continuous thanksgiving, each and every Sunday in worship.

I look forward to seeing all of you Sunday after Sunday in worship, so that we might all give thanks to God for all of His gifts to us in Jesus!

In Christ,

Pastor Davidson