

Worship on October 11, 2020

Order of worship

We Gather

- Welcome and Announcements
- Call to worship
- Prayer for worship + Lord's Prayer
- Words of Assurance

We Listen

- Prayer for illumination (or song)
- Scripture Luke 17:11-19
- Sermon: Give Thanks to the Lord

We Respond

- Prayer for the people
- Offering –

We Serve

- Benediction
- Postlude

Ponder Upon Questions

Announcements:

. Happy Thanksgiving!! Grace and peace to you all who are worshipping God with us through this video today. This worship is for Sunday, October 11th, 2020. On this Thanksgiving Day, I hope and pray that God's abundant blessings be experienced in your life in the midst of difficult time.

. To meet and talk to me for the pastor care or any prayer requests, please email me or phone me. revsoonghuh@hotmail.com / 647-208-5381.

. Thank you for your offerings. We praise God for his faithfulness and his love for each and everyone of us even though we are going through hard times. On this Thanksgiving Sunday, let us try to count our blessings from our faithful God.

As we come into the presence of God, let us calm down our hearts and minds and focus on our Lord.

Call To Worship

PS 131.

1 O Lord, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes are not raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me. 2 But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me. 3 O Israel, hope in the Lord from this time on and forevermore. (Let us pray.)

Prayer For Adoration and Confession

Generous and forgiving God, you are the first and the last, the giver of all good things. Your glory is endless; your power, incomparable. Your love stretches wider than the universe, your mercy reaches beyond the heights of heaven. We gather with hearts thankful for the abundance of your creation to worship and adore you. Inspired by this time of worship, may our hearts overflow with praise each and every day, and may our lives reflect our gratitude to you in the ways we share your abundant love in Jesus' name.

Generous and loving God, we confess that in a world where many do not have enough, we enjoy more than we need. In a world where many live in fear, we take peace for granted. In a world where many have lost hope, we become indifferent to despair and grumble about small things. Forgive us, merciful God, and transform our lives to shine with the generosity, peace and hope you offer us in Christ Jesus.

This time, we come to you in prayer that you taught us how to pray: (The Lord's Prayer:)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Friends, while it is true we have all sinned, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God I declare, in Jesus Christ our sin is forgiven. Be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another.

Before we read today's scripture, let us pray for the illumination of the Lord.

Prayer for Illumination:

God of prophets and parables, as we gather to listen to the scriptures read and proclaimed, may we hear your voice, and in hearing, may our lives be transformed by your grace.

Scripture: Luke 17:11-19

11 On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. 12 As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, 13 they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" 14 When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. 15 Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. 16 He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. 17 Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? 18 Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" 19 Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

This is the Word of the Lord / Thanks be to God.

Title: Give Thanks to the LORD

Today's title is "Give thanks to the LORD"

Today is Thanksgiving Sunday. So, I will talk about giving thanks to the Lord today.

What is thanksgiving? Why do we celebrate Thanksgiving having parties with a lot of food? And we take some time to look back of the year for what happened and how we did so far through the year? Why do we do it on Thanksgiving? It is to find out good things happened in our lives and to remember what God has done in our lives.

The most important thing to remember when you think about Thanksgiving day, it's to thank God, of course. Also, we can thank each other for many things. We can say how much we appreciate for our family, our friends, and our sisters and brothers in our community.

But, this season of Thanksgiving, we are going to focus on the Ultimate Giver of everything and thank Him, God, alone.

Generally speaking, how thankful are we? When was our last time expressing our genuine thankfulness to God or to any other people around us?

For this season of thanksgiving, I bless all of you to recover your thankful hearts and have new perspective in everything in your lives by having thankful attitude.

One of the famous Japanese ministers, Uchimura Kanzo said this.

The most terrible things can happen to Christians are...

- 1) No matter how hard you try to believe God, you cannot believe God. You just cannot admit the existence of God..
- 2) You can never believe the Bible
- 3) And lastly, you don't have the heart of thankfulness – you can't never thank for anything.

Today's scripture is about the lack of thankfulness, depending on whom you focus.

At the time of Jesus, once you have some kinds of contagious disease, you are alienated. Like now for COVID 19. If you have symptom, you quarantine for two weeks. The villages used to be in some kind of castle or some kind of physical boundary with fences and walls. So, people who have these kinds of diseases are not allowed stay in, but they are thrown out of the village.

Outside the village, to survive, they gather together and help each other., building another community of the outcast.

One day, Jesus was walking close to the boundary of two villages. Ten people who had leprosy saw Jesus was approaching to them. They shouted, "Jesus! help us! Have mercy on us." Because they knew that they could not get close to "normal" people, they kept the distance – Jesus answered. "Go and show your body to the priests"

You know what it means? Back then, priests decided whether they are clean or not and whether they are to cast out from the village or to keep them inside with others. They were like the judge and doctor at the same time. That's why Jesus told the lepers to show their bodies to the priests, so that they can be declared clean so that they can go back to their normal lives.

But, while they were running to the priests, they realized that they were healed...

Wow! What is this?!?! Now, they were be so excited because now they could go back to their own families – their loving wife, husband, children, parents, and their friends. Now they are finally going back to their old life – their ordinary life, which they missed so much.

However, one person stopped from the group. The other 9 healed people did not pay too much attention to the one person who stopped.

The one person who stopped turned around and began to run back to where he met Jesus.

“Jesus! look at me! I am healed. My body is clean now. Thank you. Thank you Lord.

You are truly the LORD God and I praise You!”

As soon as he could see Jesus, he would praise God with loud voice.

When he got to Jesus, he just knelt down and bowed down to Jesus saying thank you, thank you, and thank you...

Has God shown you His goodness?

There is a hymn called “count your many blessings... name them one by one”
“you will see what God has done in your life”

Today, for the Ponder Upon Questions, I always prepare on the Description section below, or at the end of the written script, I want you to think about what God has done in your life and what do you remember and how do you feel about them?

What kind of life do you want to live? Or, how do you want to respond to God for what he has done in your life?

When you were healed like the leper in the story, would you be the one who came back and thanked Jesus, or one of the nine who forgot about Jesus and just took all the blessings from him for granted?

I hope and pray that all of us can be the one person who came back to Jesus to show his gratitude. In this season of thanksgiving, I bless all of you to have grateful heart for God for his love and grace in our lives, even though we are experiencing the world pandemic. I really hope that we may

experience God's abundant blessings and his faithfulness in the midst of this hard time. Count the blessings from God and name them one by one. You will see what God has done in your life. Let's pray.

Let us pray.

God, you are an amazing God. We thank you for what you have done in our lives. You gave us life. You made us clean. You died in our place. By your love and grace for us, the veil, the curtain in the Holy of Holies was torn down from top to bottom and made our direct connection to God again. We restored our broken relationship with God. Thank you. We remember the one who came back to Jesus and thanked him for the healing. We want to be like the person. We desire to have the thankful heart. Many times, we act like the nine who went their own ways. Many times, we just take granted for all the blessings you have poured out in our lives. Help us. help us remember you and help us have the grateful heart for you. On this year's Thanksgiving, it is very odd, strange because we are at home. We cannot gather together and share our fellowship because of this pandemic. Although it is not what we like, help us look beyond our situations. Help us look at your faithfulness to us. You are still there for us and you are still watching over us. We thank you and we praise you. Be glorified through all that we are. In Jesus' precious and powerful name, we pray, Amen.

Let us continue to pray for the people of God.

Prayer for the people

Loving Father God, we thank you for your love for us, grace poured out in our lives, and all the blessings and gifts we are experiencing in our daily lives. We thank you for giving us all that we are. As we pray, help us know that all we have are from you and let us confess that you are the source of our lives.

We are electing new elders in our church. They are to be the leaders participating to make important church decisions and become good role models to the whole church and to the surrounding communities. All is done from our part, so we offer up this election into your hands. Provide us good leaders so we can continue to work for you. Prepare those who will be new elders, so with one heart and one mind, we will continue to glorify you as we faithfully follow your ways.

We pray for the world now. There are increasing numbers of confirmed cases. Everyday is the new record. Have mercy on us. After the summer, our awareness became weak. Many are acting like this Coronavirus is not a big deal. But, we know that it's still out there and it still has huge impact on everyone's life. Give awareness and give wisdom upon us. Help all of us work together to end this difficult situation.

In this difficult time, we are preparing reopening as well. Because we long for the intimate experience of your presence and close love and fellowship with each other. Lord God, give us strength and courage, so we can be ready and embrace in-person worship with love and care. Our congregants have been very very patient. Please continue to be with them and help them stand strong day by day as they keep up their faith in you and as they carry out their daily responsibilities. We pray for each person in our church. Remember them and place your hand upon them and encourage them. We all need your love. We all need to experience your grace day by day. Open our eyes and hearts, so we know that you are with us all the time.

Gracious and loving God, what a strange time it is. Although we do not like what we are experiencing, we still expect you to show us your faithfulness and love for us. Although we are

going through hard time, we know that you are with us. Thank you for holding our hands and walking with us. In Jesus' precious name, we pray. Amen.

Invitation to the offering: This is the time for offering. This Thanksgiving comes during a complicated time. We celebrate the gifts of God's good earth which sustain us, as well as the labour of those who have kept us supplied with these gifts throughout many difficult months. Some in our community have lost so much through the pandemic; others are grateful for sustaining gifts like friendship more than ever now. Today we bring what we can share, offered so that the ministry and mission of Christ's church can thrive in the challenging days ahead, grateful that God goes with us, whatever we face.

Offering – Paul's music

Offering prayer: Gracious God, we present our gifts to you as tokens of our thanksgiving for all we have received from your hand. Bless these gifts and multiply them, just as Jesus multiplied a few loaves and fishes to bless others. Use our gifts and our energy to share your love in our community and around your world, for the sake of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Now, it is the time for us to go back to the world. Enjoy God, his presence. He is holding your hands and going through this hard time together.

Benediction

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, And the Love of God, And the intimate fellowship of the Holy Spirit, Be with us all, now and always. Amen.

Ponder Upon Questions:

1. What is my biggest complains these days? And how can I change my view looking at my complains to thank God? (EX. No school for children --- build bonding time with children)
2. Imagine a weaned child – experiencing a total satisfaction, when do I or how do I experience the total satisfaction in the Lord?
3. What did God do I my life? And how did I respond to it/them?