

DUTY ROSTER FOR NOVEMBER 18, 2018

Usher for This Week: Thom Steger

9:00 AM

Song Leader:

Thom Steger

Scripture Reading:

TBD

Scripture:

2Corinthians 8:1-5

Prayer:

Andrew Durham

Lesson:

Stacey Durham

Do I Have To?

Closing Prayer:

Bill Duryea

11:00 AM

Song Leader:

Jim Barton

Scripture Reading:

Gary Sells

Scripture:

Revelation 3:14-19

Prayer:

Wayne Baker

Lord's Supper:

David Bansemer

Alex Bansemer

Al Cotten

Chevis Webb

Lesson:

Stacey Durham

Light the Fire

Announcements:

Ron Dixon

Closing Prayer:

David Bansemer

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Song Leader: TBD

Invitation: Thom Steger

Closing Prayer: Kevin Hayes

Creekview church of Christ
930 Long Hollow Pike
Gallatin, TN 37066
615-452-8212

Service Times:

Sundays 9:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Bible Study
11:00 AM Worship

Wednesdays 7:00 PM Bible Study

creekviewchurchofchrist.com

LORD'S SUPPER PREPARATION

November: Hayes

December: Fix

SIGN MESSAGE CHANGING

November: Webb

December:

Elders: Ron Dixon, John Fix, Stacey Durham Deacons: David Bansemer, Kevin Hayes, Thom Steger, Doug Thweatt
Preacher and Editor: Stacey Durham

CREEKVIEW BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 18, 2018

Volume 33 Number 46

Thoughts for Worship

As we enter into worship today, let us consider the words of David in Psalm 9:1-2:

I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart;

I will tell of all Thy wonders.

I will be glad and exult in Thee;

I will sing praise to Thy name, O Most High.

May these words capture the attitudes of our hearts today as we come before God to pray, sing His praises, and tell of His glorious wonders.

To Our Visitors:

We hope that you find our services to be Scriptural in all things and edifying to your soul. We count it as a great honor and privilege to gather before the Lord for worship, and we hope that this sense of reverence is evident in all that we do. Thank you for coming to be with us today, and may God bless you as you walk with Him.

news and notes:

- Please pray for the following members: Kaye Barton, Jim & Kay Cook, Billy & Wilma Deering, Mary Ham, Donella Jones, Kay Lanisus, Jim Stubblefield, and Bessie Short. Also remember Donella Jones' sister Velma and Peggy Bailey's daughter Sherry.
- If you are not attending Wednesday night Bible study, then why not? Come this week, and you'll be glad you did.

52 Week Reading Plan: Week 46

Sunday - 1Peter 4-5

Monday - Deuteronomy 13-15

Tuesday - Ezra 1-5

Wednesday - Psalms 131-133

Thursday - Ecclesiastes 7-8

Friday - Zechariah 1-7

Saturday - Acts 15-16

Gospel Meetings:

None to announce

Why Give Thanks?

With the Thanksgiving holiday coming up, people are preparing to come together and celebrate with a lot of good food. Some families have a tradition when they are gathered at the table to have each family member say why he or she is thankful. Each one will then express gratitude for blessings such as health, homes, and achievements. Of course, Christians will be most thankful for the spiritual blessings that are in Christ Jesus, such as forgiveness, peace, joy, and the hope of eternal life. Such traditions are good, and whether thanksgiving is expressed outwardly before others or spoken silently within the thoughts of one's heart, being thankful is itself a great blessing.

When giving thanks, it is paramount to remember the true objective. Thanksgiving is not merely a time for taking inventory of all that is good in our lives, although it is always good to count our blessings. Most importantly, thanksgiving is a matter of being mindful of the One who has provided every blessing, for "every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow" (Jas. 1:17). Indeed, thanks cannot be given unless there is a recipient, and that recipient must be God, "who gives to all generously" (Jas. 1:5). There is nothing that any of us possesses that did not come from God's gracious hand, so there should be no limit to our gratitude toward Him.

It is simply right to give thanks to God, for He is worthy of it. For all that God gives and all that He does for us, He deserves to be praised. We should give Him thanks because He is good, kind, merciful, loving, gracious, and wise in infinite measure. In Psalm 107, the passage begins by saying, "Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His lovingkindness is everlasting" (v. 1). Four times in the psalm, the Scripture says, "Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, and for His wonders to the sons of men" (vv. 8, 15, 21, 31). Verse 22 says, "Let them also offer sacrifices of thanksgiving, and tell of His works with joyful singing," and verse 32 says, "Let them extol Him also in the congregation of the people, and praise Him at the seat of the elders." Expressions of thanksgiving, words of praise, and deeds done in gratitude should come naturally to all who recognize the blessings of God in their lives. Only those who are darkened in their understanding will fail to give thanks to Him (Rom. 1:21).

Giving thanks to God also builds our faith and gives us assurance that He will continue to bless us. When we count our blessings and thank God for each of them, we realize that He gives us all that we need, and we learn

to rely on Him. Indeed, every breath we have ever taken, every drop of water we have ever swallowed, and every morsel of food we have ever eaten came from God. Being thankful for all these past blessings, surely we will not worry now that He will suddenly cease to care for us.

Consider Philippians 4:6-7:

⁶Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

As we offer prayers and supplications "with thanksgiving," we are reminded of how many prayers and supplications He has answered already. This gives us peace and confidence that He will continue to supply our needs just as He always has. After all, He has already given us the best of heaven by giving His Son for us (Rom. 8:32). What more assurance do we need?

Because God blesses us so abundantly day after day, we should also give thanks to Him every day. An annual Thanksgiving holiday is a good way for the nation to recognize His blessings collectively, but every day should be a day of thanksgiving to us individually. The Scriptures indicate this in passages such as these:

- Ephesians 5:20 - ...always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father.
- 1Thessalonians 5:18 - ...in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
- Hebrews 13:15 - Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.

God doesn't need us to thank Him, but we need to thank God. Indeed, we need to thank God because it is right to do so, it puts us in mind of the greatness of our God, it reminds us of all He has done for us, it assures us of His continual care for us, it teaches us to rely on Him, and it gives us peace. Moreover, we need to remember God with thanksgiving every day because He remembers us every day. Therefore, we may joyfully celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday each year, but it is much more important to give thanks to God always.

Stacey E. Durham