NOVEMBER 26, 2026
THANKSGIVING DAY

taking faith home

A thankful heart is a generous heart.

THANKSGIVING DAY BIBLE READINGS

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

Thursday	**Deuteronomy 8:7-18**	**The Lord takes care of you**
	Psalm 65	**Thanksgiving for creation**
	2 Corinthians 9:6-15	**Generous giving**
	Luke 17:11-19	**The ten lepers**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THANKSGIVING DAY

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:7 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for Thanksgiving Day:
Gracious God, we thank you for your love and bringing us healing, hope, and joy through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
Dear God, we thank you that you water the earth, provide grain for food, and place before us the fruit of the earth for this meal today. Amen. (Psalm 65:9)

A Blessing to Give:
May God bless you with a thankful heart.

MILESTONES MINISTRY

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HYMN FOR THANKSGIVING DAY

Oh, Sing to God Above

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 is something you are thankful for this year?
- What do you thank God for in your life?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 17:11-19.
There is a difference between what one wants to do and what one needs to do. Jesus tells the healed lepers that they need to go to the priests to confirm their healing, and they do. However, only one leper is compelled by an inner desire to return and offer thanks. Jesus notes the presence of the one who returns with a desire to give thanks to Jesus. Although all ten are healed, Jesus says to the Samaritan, the outsider who desires to give thanks, *"your faith has made you well"* (v. 19). These are the same words used by Jesus in other stories in Luke, including the hemorrhaging woman (Luke 8:48) and the blind beggar (Luke 18:42). In Luke 7:50, Jesus says it again to the woman at his anointing when the phrase is translated, *"Your faith has saved you."* The same Greek words can be translated as "saved you" or "made you well." Health and salvation fit together. A thankful heart belongs to both health and salvation.
Discuss: How is your health strengthened by a thankful heart?
Pray: **God of glory, we thank you for your generosity that blesses us with health and salvation, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Bible Readings and theme for this day, with whom can you show an act of kindness and generosity, perhaps someone you do not know?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The first Thanksgiving was held in the early 1600's by Puritans and Pilgrims immigrating from England to America. President George Washington proclaimed the first nationwide celebration in November of 1789 "as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God." Before, during, or after the Thanksgiving meal, think or talk about something you are thankful for.
Then pray: **Thanks be to God for the Lord's indescribable gifts! Amen.**

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In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: **www.milestonesministry.org**