

NOVEMBER 25, 2021
THANKSGIVING DAY



Being thankful is a way of life.

THANKSGIVING DAY BIBLE READINGS

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

Thursday	Matthew 6:25-33	Do not worry
	1 Timothy 2:1-7	How to pray
	Psalms 126	A harvest of joy

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THANKSGIVING DAY

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone. 1 Timothy 2:1 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for Thanksgiving Day:

Gracious God, we thank you for your love that gives us faith in you, hope for the future, and love toward all people through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, for satisfying us with good things, including this food today, we give you our thanks and our praise. In Jesus' name. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God who clothes the lilies of the field, clothe you with a thankful heart.



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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 you thankful for?
- How does a thankful heart impact your health and the well-being of others?
- How do you show and express thanks to God? How might this influence others around you?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Psalm 126.

This psalm expresses the joy of the Israelites coming home after exile in Babylon more than five hundred years before the birth of Christ. Those who returned were "like those who dream" (v. 1). It does not always happen that our dreams come true, but when a life-changing and positive circumstance happens, it is worth expressing joy. This is more than the buzzer beater winning point at a basketball game. It is more like sowing seeds and hoping the efforts will result in a bountiful harvest. When things happen that celebrate life, love, and good health, we want to turn to the source of all of life, our merciful God shown most clearly to us in Jesus, and give thanks. For people of faith, it is hard not to share our joy with our Lord when hearts are full of thankfulness. When hopes and dreams come true, when birth happens, when relationships are restored, when natural disasters subside, when wars cease, when the fear of death is swallowed up in new life, thanksgiving is the way to express our delight and our joy in the presence of God. Talk or think about a joyful experience that led you to give thanks to God. *Pray: God of abundance, we thank you for all the good in life, for beauty, for bountiful harvests, for peace among neighbors and nations, and for the gift of faith through Jesus, the Christ. Amen.*

SERVICE



Give thanks for all the blessings in your life this Thanksgiving. Think of those who are less fortunate than yourself. Many people, due to circumstances such as age, illness or homelessness, may not have the opportunity to celebrate Thanksgiving with loved ones. How can you extend Thanksgiving blessings to others this week?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



For Christians, thanksgiving is a way of life. On this day of giving thanks, take time to gather with family and friends to list what God has done for you to give you a thankful heart. Make the list into a prayer by saying: **Dear God, thank you for _____.**

