

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP CELEBRATION

Wednesday, November 24, 2021 | 7:00PM

CALL TO WORSHIP: *Responsive Reading*

Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name;

make known his deeds among the peoples!

Sing to him, sing praises to him;

tell of all his wondrous works!

Glory in his holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

He remembers his covenant forever,

the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

Praise the Lord!

—*Psalm 105:1-3, 7-8, 45*

SONG: Stand Up & Bless the Lord

Stand up, and bless the Lord, ye people of His choice;

stand up, and bless the Lord your God with heart, and soul, and voice.

Tho' high above all praise, above all blessing high,

who would not fear His holy Name, and laud and magnify?

O for the living flame, from His own altar brought,

to touch our lips, our minds inspire, and wing to heav'n our thought!

God is our strength and song, and His salvation ours;

then be His love in Christ proclaimed with all our ransomed pow'rs.

Stand up and bless the Lord, the Lord your God adore;

stand up, and bless His glorious Name henceforth for evermore.

SCRIPTURE: *Responsive Reading*

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

—*Romans 8:31-35, 37-39*

SONG: He Will Hold Me Fast

When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

Chorus:

*He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast*

Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

CHORUS

For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When he comes at last

CHORUS

Colossians 2.7b — we are to be overflowing with gratitude!

context — Colossians 1.21-23

- I. v.21 - Your PAST
- II. v.22 - Your POSITION
- III. v.23 - Your PERSEVERANCE

THESIS — Let's survey Colossians & see the 7x that Paul speaks of *thanksgiving*:

Be overflowing with gratitude [abounding with thankfulness] ...

1. for God's sanctifying work in the believers (1.3)
2. for the Father qualifying us for heavenly inheritance (1.12)
3. in our daily walk with Jesus Christ (2.7b)
4. as we pursue unity in the Church family (3.15)
5. as we minister the Word to one another (3.16)
6. in all that we do in life (3.17)
7. in our prayer lives (4.2)

"The gospel reminds me first that what I actually deserve from God is a full cup churning with the torments of His wrath. This is the cup that would be mine to drink if I were given what I deserve each day. With this understanding in mind, I see that to be handed a completely empty cup from God would be cause enough for infinite gratitude. If there were merely the tiniest drop of blessing contained in that otherwise empty cup, I should be blown away by the unbelievable kindness of God toward me. That God, in fact, has given me a cup that is full of 'every spiritual blessing in Christ,' and this without the slightest admixture of wrath, leaves me truly dumbfounded with inexpressible joy. As for my specific earthly circumstances of plenty or want, I can see them always as infinite improvements on the hell I deserve." (Milton Vincent)

OPEN SHARING & TESTIMONIES OF THANKS

SONG: Jesus Thank You

The mystery of the cross I cannot comprehend
The agonies of Calvary
You the perfect Holy One, crushed Your Son
Who drank the bitter cup reserved for me

CHORUS

*Your blood has washed away my sin
Jesus, thank You
The Father's wrath completely satisfied
Jesus, thank You
Once Your enemy, now seated at Your table
Jesus, thank You*

By Your perfect sacrifice I've been brought near
Your enemy You've made Your friend
Pouring out the riches of Your glorious grace
Your mercy and Your kindness know no end

Lover of my soul I want to live for You (*repeat*)

CORPORATE PRAYER

CLOSING SONG: Grace Greater Than All Our Sin

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!
Yonder on Calvary's mount out-poured—
There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

Refrain:

*Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that is greater than all our sin!*

Sin and despair, like the sea-waves cold,
Threaten the soul with infinite loss;
Grace that is greater— yes, grace untold—
Points to the Refuge, the mighty Cross.

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace,
Freely bestowed on all who believe!
All who are longing to see His face,
Will you this moment His grace receive?

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. —2 Corinthians 13:14