

Morning Worship

November 15, 2015

Pastor — Allan Lane	Organ --- Alva Lou Schottel
Worship Leader — Tim Waters	Piano — Marcia Hart
As you enter for worship, please silence your cell phones.	
(CCLI permit # 424692 covers all copyright song lyrics)	
Welcome and Fellowship	Allan/People
Hymn # 572 "I Love to Tell the Story"	Tim/People
Offering/Worship Prayer	
Tithes and Offerings	People
Offering Music	Marcia Hart
Hymn # 227 "Praise Him! Praise Him!"	Tim/People
Hymn # 546 "Love Lifted Me"	Tim/People
Anthem "The Love of Christ"	Worship Choir
Hymn # 547 "I Stand Amazed in the Presence"	Tim/People
Chorus # 146 "O How He Loves You and Me"	Tim/People
Children's Worship	
Scripture Reading	Allan/People
Message	Allan Lane
Hymn # 316 "Jesus Is Tenderly Calling"	Tim/People
Prayer Concerns	Allan/People
Chorus of # 448 "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"	Tim/People

Reasons for Thankfulness

Psalm 103:1-5

November 15, 2015 am

Psalm 103 is designed to promote the blessing and exaltation of God, while also acknowledging the problem of pain, suffering, sin and death. This psalm represents a soliloquy in which David surveys God's goodness and encourages the angels and the works of God's creation to join him in divine praise.

The only answer to the problem of pain, suffering, sin and death, is the life and work of Christ. Instead of a prideful self-satisfaction, faith in God realizes God as the source of all blessing and thankfulness is an expression of faith that appropriately responds to this realization. In our individual lives and corporate praise, it is fitting to give thanks. We can give thanks for:

1) God's Existence . Psalm 103:1

What does it mean to bless God? The Hebrew verb "always means to express solemn words that show the appreciation, gratitude, respect, joint relationship, or good will of the speaker, thus promoting respect for the one being blessed. When God is the object, it is rendered "praise."

When the Lord 'blesses' us, He reviews our needs and responds to them; when we 'bless' the Lord, we review His excellency and respond to that. Praise requires preparation. Our hearts, ever inclined to deadness and coldness, must be stirred to properly take up praise. If he was anything, David was a student of his heart. We all should be! So before he offers one word of praise, he stokes his heart. He preaches to himself and then preaches a message to each worshiper to lift up his or her own heart in earnest praise. Yahweh is worthy of a total response of grateful worship for the totality of divine blessing.

As the Psalmist blesses God, he throws himself fully into his worship. He gives "All that is within me." His worship is a "living sacrifice" (Romans 12:1).

Not content to have mere words, or even what might be considered some religious duty, the Psalmist calls us to worship God entirely with our entire mind, body, soul and spirit. The reference to our soul is not just the non-material part of our nature but a representation of the entire person.

Jonathan Edwards believed that there is no true worship that does not touch the "affections." We often are strangely unaffected, honoring God "with our lips" while our hearts are "far from him." Spirit, soul, and body are cued in to bless the holy name of God. His holy name—(Psalm 5:11), represents His complete moral perfections. In essence it is praise of someone to whom he knows. It is not blind, emotional exuberance, but accurate, joyful praise to address someone to whom we know and gladly relate.

2) God's Benefits . Psalm 103:2

In verse 2, the call to worship rings out a second time, with the significant added reminder that we should forget not all His benefits. It is a needed reminder because all too often we do forget. We forget to thank Him for soundness of body, soundness of mind, sight, hearing, speech, appetite, and a host of other mercies. We take them too much for granted.

The fact is that to forget such things may have a deeper and subtler cause than absent-mindedness. To remember has the connotation of realizing; realizing the source of blessing and responding appropriately. Pride is the manifestation of forgetfulness, thinking that our own efforts brought about outward success.

C. S. Lewis in his "Reflections on the Psalms" said it like this: "It is not out of compliment that lovers keep on telling one another how beautiful they are; the delight is incomplete till it is expressed. It is frustrating to have discovered a new author and not to be able to tell anyone how good he is; to come suddenly, at the turn of the road, upon some mountain valley of unexpected grandeur and then to have to keep silent because the people with you care for it no more than for a tin can in the ditch; to hear a good joke and find no one to share it with."

3) God's Forgiveness and Healing . Psalm 103:3

Iniquity is a failure to conform in thought, word or deed, to the standards of a holy God. It is simply sin. Sin is a spiritual disease that ultimately results in death and eternal separation from God. There is indeed a healing of this disease through repentance: which is first recognizing the seriousness of the disease.

Above all else, we should be thankful to Him for forgiving all our iniquities. But, there is a difference between Gods handling of iniquity and of diseases, which was made plain in David's own case when he repented of his sin with Bathsheba.

Forgiveness was immediate; but healing was denied, in spite of seven days of prayer and fasting (2 Samuel 12:13-23).

2 Samuel 12 speaks so clearly to the relationship between forgiveness, healing, sin and sickness. D. A. Carson said: "In 2 Samuel 12:13-23, forgiveness was instantaneous, healing was withheld; sin and sickness were alike laid on Jesus (Matthew 8:16, 17) but just as, in this present life, though forgiven we still suffer the plague of sin, so sickness is still our lot according to his sovereign appointment until, in heaven, every disability, like every moral infirmity, will be gone."

Every sickness reminds us that we are sinners living in a sinful world. Sometimes a specific sickness is the result of a specific sin. Sickesses transmitted or caused by drug abuse or sexual immorality are examples of such diseases. God may send sickness to punish unbelievers, as he did when he sent plagues against Egypt. Sickesses may also be sent to chasten or correct believers (1 Corinthians 11:29, 30). However, we cannot draw the conclusion that every sickness is the result of a specific

sin. God may have some other reason for allowing sicknesses to enter our lives, such as strengthening our faith or displaying his glory. Examples of such sicknesses are those of Job or of the man born blind (John 9).

Henry T. Mahan writes: "The diseases of this body are the results of sin and God will heal them when it is according to His will and when it serves His purpose, but the diseases referred to here are spiritual diseases, which, like our sins, are all healed in Christ. He bore all our spiritual sicknesses and diseases in His body on the tree and by His sufferings we are healed forever...."

The greatest healing is forgiveness of sin. A true sign of forgiveness is a trust in God, especially when healing does not come. However, there are times in this life when God indeed will heal disease. But the promise that He forgives all your iniquity is promise of the redemption of our bodies' (Romans 8:23). He indeed heals all your diseases, but for most people, this fulfillment is to come.

The prophetic call here and now is always to repent, and the gospel promises that confession of sin brings cleansing (1 John 1:9).

George Matheson, the well-known blind preacher of Scotland, speaking with the Lord, said: "My God, I have never thanked Thee for my "thorn!" I have thanked Thee a thousand times for my roses, but never once for my "thorn;" I have been looking forward to a world where I shall get compensation for my cross as itself a present glory. Teach me the glory of my cross; teach me the value of my "thorn." Show me that I have climbed to Thee by the path of pain. Show me that my tears have made my rainbow."

4) God's Redemption, Love and Mercy . Psalm 103:4

In verse 4a the verb "redeems" is used in the sense of rescue. Together with the Pit, a synonym for Sheol, these terms are taken by most as a deliverance from death. At one level, to be redeemed from the Pit could be an expression simply for rescue from a premature disease (Psalm 6:5; 28:1). He continually delivers us from dangers, accidents, tragedies and thus from going down to the grave. Only when we get to heaven will we realize how often we were protected by the personal intervention of our God from premature death.

We should take 4a in its strongest sense, as resurrection to eternal life. On this hope, Psalm 16:9–11, which is also Davidic, is even more explicit. God also crowns us with steadfast love/lovingkindness and tender mercy. It is a wonderful diadem for those who were once the loveless and guilty. Believers are now loved with everlasting love and showered day by day with His mercy. His mercy, at times specified as His tender mercies is a reflection of God compassion. A sure sign of God's mercy is that we do not continually suffer all the consequences of our sin. We must never become arrogant that we are just fine and secure apart from God. The removing of His hand of protection for an instant subjects us to tremendous peril.

The symbol of being crowned suggests that our royal glory and authority are divine love and mercy. Thus Paul, in Ephesians 2:7, sees believers as reigning with Christ "that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus."

5) God's Satisfaction and Renewal . Psalm 103:5

God satisfies us with good things as long as we live. The Hebrew here is a bit uncertain. The literal translation is He "satisfies your ornament with good things." From there it is rendered "your prime," "your years" or "as long as you live." But even if we can't agree on the exact words, the truth here is that the Lord satisfies the longing heart, and that He does not withhold any good thing from those who walk uprightly.

The Psalmist references the eagle and compares it to our youthful strength. The mysterious way of the long-lived eagle symbolized strength and speed (Exodus 19:4, Jeremiah 48:40), which also characterizes human youth.

In Isaiah 40:29-31 the eagle has a reputation for long life and superior strength. Its life is not one of continuous vitality and renewed youth; it too grows old and dies. But what the psalmist is saying is that the person who dwells in God enjoys continuous revival, and goes from strength to strength, like the eagle soaring from one height to the next.

Conclusion

The result of these five benefits—forgiveness, healing, preservation, coronation and satisfaction—is that our youth is renewed like the eagle. Sickness and violence may affect the body but they cannot touch the spirit (2 Corinthians 4:16).

On earth there is no fountain of eternal youth as far as the body is concerned, but the spirit can go from one degree of strength to another. We often advocate that people live each of their days as if it were their last. This way of life focuses our efforts on what is truly meaningful when our life focuses on He Who is beyond this mere existence.

The only way to truly soar is through believing in Jesus. Jesus promises to be the true life. Do you believe this (John 11:25-26)?

Soar with Thankfulness!

Truths about Thanksgiving

Our society has become so confused about priorities. Take all the nonsense at the University of Missouri these past couple weeks. It is hard sometimes to sort out all the deceptions and get to the truth. In life there are times when it's best for us just to say, "No thanks!" Like in the following story:

A young woman teacher with obvious liberal tendencies was explaining to her small students that she is an atheist and that her class would not be doing anything special for Thanksgiving. Then, she asked her class to raise their hands if they were atheists, too. Not really knowing what atheism was but wanting to be like their teacher, their hands exploded into the air like fireworks. However, there was one exemption. A little girl named Lucy had not gone along with the crowd. The teacher asks her why she had decided to be different. She replied, "Because I'm not an atheist." So the teacher asked her what she was.

"I'm a Christian." By now the teacher is a little perturbed, so she asked Lucy why she is a Christian.

"Well, I was brought up knowing and loving Jesus. My mom is a Christian, and my dad is a Christian, so I am a Christian, too."

Now angry, the teacher said loudly, "That's no reason! What if your mom was a moron, and your dad was a moron. What would you be then?"

Little Lucy paused, and smiled. "Then," said Lucy, "I guess I'd be an atheist."

Thanksgiving is a believer's celebration. We are blessed by giving thanks to the God who has given us life abundant and promised eternal life with Him. Thanksgiving is a public holiday but it's also an atheist's nightmare. It causes us to ask Who do atheists thank on Thanksgiving? And can an atheist really celebrate Thanksgiving? Besides saying "thanks for nothing" atheists can only thank their family and friends and themselves.

An atheist leader was asked, "How does an atheist cope with everyday life in America? Is there anything to believe in at all?"

The atheist responded, "No, nothing. We don't believe in anything. I suppose you could say we believe in decent behavior. We believe decent behavior is a social construct learned from the days when we lived in caves. But you have to remember the word belief is a religion-based construct."

How true. There is nothing in this world worthy of our belief. If we place our faith in ourselves, our family and the things that are temporal, we will always be disappointed. But we know our God is great and worthy of our praise. He never fails. He never disappoints. Give thanks for all His benefits!

God Bless You!
Bro. Allan

Opportunities For Service

Living out Your Spiritual Commitment . . . and Fulfilling Christ's Divine Plan

Sunday, November 15, 2015

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am
Sunday School 9:15 am
Morning Worship.....10:30 am
Nursery: Volunteers as needed
Ushers: Gary Yarbrough, Ken Nice,
 Fred Kerns, Don Sharp
Alternate: Isaac Waters

Thanksgiving Dinner and
Business Meeting.....Noon

No Evening Worship

Wednesday, November 18

Youth Study..... 6:30 pm
Prayer / Bible Study6:30 pm
Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Thursday, November 19

O Team.....6:30 pm
Food Pantry at Patee Park

Sunday, November 22, 2015

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am
Sunday School 9:15 am
Morning Worship.....10:30 am
Nursery: Volunteers as needed
Ushers: Steven Buckley, Ken Nice,
 Don Sharp, Fred Kerns
Alternate: Isaac Waters

Diversicare.....2:30 pm

Evening Worship..... 6:30 pm

Wednesday, November 25

Youth Study..... 6:30 pm
Prayer / Bible Study6:30 pm
Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Thursday, November 26

Happy Thanksgiving!

Up-Coming Events.....

November 15 — Thanksgiving Dinner and

Business Meeting at Noon

— Winter Grief Seminar, Stewartsville

November 18 — Collection Day for Operation Christmas Child

November 19 — Food Pantry Day

November 22 — Diversicare Service 2:30 pm

November 23 — Sunday School Workers Meeting

November 26 — Thanksgiving Day (Office will be closed.)

November 29 — December 5—Week of Prayer for

International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

GROW Team

Commit to **GROW!** Everyone make a contact! Invite someone to Bible Study and Worship this week. ☺

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Sunday Nights

We will not have Sunday Evening Service here tonight. Please join us next week!

Wednesday Night Prayer and Bible Study

We will be meeting this Wednesday at 6:30 pm. Please make plans to attend. Prayer and Bible Study matter!

Collection Day:

**Wednesday,
November 18**

Remember to include \$7 for postage.

Winter Grief Seminar Sunday, November 15, 2015

6:00 p.m.

**First Baptist Church
109 W. 8th Street,
Stewartsville, MO**

Counselor Steve Sewell will be covering practical ways to handle grief and depression which hits especially hard during the winter months. A \$10 donation at the door is suggested. If you are interested please sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Food Pantry

Today, November 15, is our collection day for Patee Park Food Pantry. You may donate monetarily or you may place your canned or boxed goods in the hallway basket any time.

Thanksgiving Dinner

and—Business Meeting
Today, Sunday, November 15,
at Noon

Please plan to attend and fellowship with us as we share a meal and also conduct the business of the church.

Diversicare Nursing Home

November 22, 2015 at 2:30 pm

Please join us as we minister to those who can no longer attend their own churches.

(Correction on Calendar—Please note that November 22 is the correct date for our nursing home visit.)

In Sympathy

We offer Christian Sympathy to the family of Eleanor Becerra, (Brigida Winans mother) who passed away Wednesday, November 11, 2015.

For the Record-

Attendance: November 8, 2015

Sunday School.....	46
Visitors.....	2
Total.....	48
Contacts Made.....	7
Morning Worship.....	56
Children's Worship	12
Sunday Night	14
Wednesday Night	15

Financial Record:

Weekly Budget.....	\$ 2,040.52
Offering Received...	\$ 2,866.35

Offering Received by Mail:

November Counting Team:

John Lewis and Bill Schottel

November Van Driver:

George Burgess

Remember to call 232-3747

before 8 am if you need a ride.

November Birthdays:

07...Alva Lou Schottel
13...Shirley Wilson
14...Sam Hoover
16...Nancy McCamy
22...Linda Dotson
23...Floetta Conard
25...Maxine Ferbert
27...Linda Kerns

November Anniversaries

Bill and Donna Dunn
November 3, 1995
Jack and Flo Conard
November 4, 1956
John and Dottie Wildberger
November 23, 1962
Jim and Brigida Winans
November 28, 1975

Prayer Requests ...

Family of Eleanor Becerra
-Brigida's mother
Margaret Dotson—stomach cancer
Maxine and George Ferbert
Bill Haskins—recovery
Joyce Izer—Praise the Lord for healing!
Stacy Gray—cancer treatment
Muriel Elder and Family
Linda Rails—Doris' Richardson's sister
Grant Schottel—advanced training
Henrietta Caballero—Brigida's Sister
Austin Chalfant—Abby's nephew
Gary and Marilyn Singleton—health
Bob Barquist—cancer
Louanne Laurence—Joyce's Mother
Lester Buck Kathryn Beavers
LoLeta Middleton Dorothy Post
Allen Jennings Ann Riddle
Jim Winans Jozy Winans
Nellie Reynolds Leona Reynolds
Kevin Duty Kenny Duty
Madeline Swink Bobby Griswold
Lois Pace Susan Patten
Debbie Sands Sue Higgins
Brenda Burgess Judy Anderson
Carolyn Houts Roscoe Lane
Keon McKahan Dorothy Post
Missionaries Don and Diane Combs
Nickolay Nazaruk, Peski 2 Church
David and Deborah Grace
Jeanette Swackhamer—Beja People

Our Nation and Leaders
Our Military Service people
Today's Prayer Requests ...

Our Nation and our Leaders ...

Five More New Families...
