**AVELEIGH: NEWBERRY’S FAMILY CHURCH**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, THANKSGIVING WEEK 2020**

**SERMON SERIES: PUTTING IT BACK TOGETHER AGAIN WEEK 4 OF 7**

**SERMON: LET US LIVE OUR LIVES AS OUR THANK YOU TO GOD**

*“The sacrifice that honors the Lord is a thankful heart.”* Psalm 50:23a (CEV)



### **Aveleigh’s LIvESTREAM BULLETIN & ADULT HOME SUNDAY SCHOOL**

 For additional info and assistance text 803 944-0416

**For in home worship preparation before viewing the Livestream Service**

**Thanksgiving** **Call to Worship:**

**Leader:** Rejoice in the Lord always! Again, I say rejoice!

**People:** Thank you, God, for so many wondrous gifts.

**Leader:** For our homes and families, for our church and friendship, for food and fellowship.

**People:** Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, we say rejoice.

**Leader:** Thank you, God, for new life in Jesus Christ, for love, for belonging and for this time of
 thanks and praise.

**People:** We all now rejoice and feast in the gifts and grace of Jesus Christ our Savior.

**ALL:** Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord our God. Let us worship our Lord with joyous
 singing. Let us worship our God, for God’s steadfast love lasts forever.

**Apostles Creed**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit. born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Church universal, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  Amen

**Thanksgiving Prayer of Confession**Wondrous and generous God, You have blessed us with gentle rains, glorious sunsets and
sun-warmed days. You bless us with loving families, kind friends, and a caring church. Let us receive these gifts with thankfulness and humility. We cannot earn nor do we deserve such generosity, but we graciously open our hearts and hands to receive.
Forgive us when we are hardhearted and tight-handed, when we don't let Your goodness flow through us, when we hide our talents and turn away from the needs of the world.
Release us, Holy One, from fear, and create a contagious spirit of giving that touches the world with hope. Amen.

**The Lord’s Prayer**
Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

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**INTRO: MY LIFE AS A THANKSGIVING GIFT TO GOD? WHY AND HOW?**

1. **BECAUSE OF WHO GOD IS!**

*“The Lord is great. He is worthy of our praise. No one can understand how great he is.”* Psalm 145:3 (ICB)

*“Give thanks to God as you remember how holy he is.”* Psalm 97:12b (GW)

*“Give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love.”* Psalm 107:8a (NIV)

*“I will thank the Lord because he is just.”* Psalm 7:17a (NLT)

*“I will thank the Lord, because he is good.”* Psalm 54:6

*“Tell the Lord how thankful you are, because he is kind and always merciful.”*

Psalm 118:1 (CEV)

1. **HOW CAN WE SHOW OUR THANKS TO GOD?**
* **By SINGING with all our HEART**

 *“Sing out your thanks to him; sing praises to our God . . .”* Psalm 147:7 (LB)

* **BY FILLING OUR PRAYERS WITH THANKING GOD**

 *“Give thanks to the Lord and pray to him.”* Psalm 105:1a (NCV)

1. **WHY? BECAUSE OF WHAT GOD HAS DONE!**

*“I will thank you God forever for what you have done.”* Psalm 52:9a (NCV)

*“Let all things praise the name of the Lord, because we were created at his command.”*

Psalm 148:5 (CEV)

*“I will praise you and rejoice because you saved me!”* Psalm 9:14b (NCV)

*“I praise the Lord for answering my prayers . . .”* Psalm 118:21 (CEV)

*“I praise the Lord, because he guides me . . .”* Psalm 16:7a (TEV)

1. **HOW CAN WE SHOW OUR THANKS?**
* **BY TELLING OTHERS THE GOOD NEWS**

 *“Thank the Lord and praise his name! Tell the world about his wonderful love!”*

 Isaiah 12:4 (LB)

* **By GIVING AN OFFERING BACK TO GOD**

 *“Give an offering to show your thanks to God. Give him what you promised.”*

 Psalm 50:14 (NCV)

##  “Celebrate the Harvest Festival, to honor the Lord your God, by bringing him a freewill  offering in proportion to the blessing He has given you.” Deuteronomy 16:10 (TEV)

* **By SERVING HIM WITH ABILITIES HE GAVE ME**

 *Let us please God by serving him with thankful hearts . . .”* Hebrews 12:28b (LB)

* **BY LIVING EACH DAY AS OUR THANK YOU GIFT**

 *“Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving
 thanks to God . . .”* Colossians 3:17 (NIV)

 *“Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus!”*

 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NIV)

 *“Let your lives overflow with thanksgiving for all he has done.”* Colossians 2:7 (LB)

1. **WHY? BECAUSE OF WHAT GOD HAS PROMISED**

*“I will praise you . . . because you are faithful to your promises.”* Psalm 71:22a (NLT)

*“God will give you everything you need from day to day if you live for Him and make the Kingdom of God your primary concern.”* Matthew 6:33

*“I will never leave you, and I will never abandon you!”* Hebrews 13:5b (TEV)

*Jesus: “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live again!”* John 11:25 (NLT)

In heaven, *“All the angels will be standing around the throne and all of us will fall on our faces before the throne and worship God. We will say ‘Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and strength belong to our God forever and forever! Amen!’”*

Revelation 7:11-12,

**Conclusion:** God wants you to practice living life as your thanksgiving gift to God now so that when you get to heaven; heaven will not be awkward or uncomfortable for you. You’ll be a pro at eternally living life as your thanksgiving gift to God.

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|  | **Sunday Worship Theme Discussion Guide**LIVING OUR LIVES AS OUR THANK YOU TO GOD**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22 THANKSGIVING WEEK 2020** |

*“The sacrifice that honors me is a thankful heart.”* Psalm 50:23a (CEV)

Thanksgiving is a popular American holiday. It’s an annual November tradition and many view it as the “kickoff” to the Christmas season. But God wants us to learn to make thanksgiving a daily way of life. When we make that choice, we experience happiness, satisfaction, significance, and our lives have meaning. Why should our lives be a thanksgiving to God? Let’s Talk It Over.

Open your group with a prayer. This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss.

*“Give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love.”* Psalm 107:8

*“I will thank the Lord because he is good.”* Psalm 54:6

1. We can live our lives as a thank you gift to God because: 1) who God is; 2) what he has done; 3) what he has promised. How do Psalm 107:8 and 54:6 describe God? What other characteristics of God can you be thankful for?
2. Share a specific thing that God has done in your life.

 *“I will praise you…because you are faithful to your promises.”* Psalm 71:22

1. What does Psalm 71:22 say about God? What promise from God’s Word has come true in your life? What promise are you waiting on God to fulfill?

 *“We were spiritually dead because of our sins and our sinful nature. But God gave us new life with Christ. He forgave all our sins and canceled the record that contained all the charges against us. He took it and destroyed it by nailing it to Christ’s cross.”* Colossians 2:13-14 (NLT)

1. Think of what God has done: we were sinners (dead) yet God gave us life, forgiving us and erasing all evidence of our sinful record. This profound verse proclaims the great gift we’ve received through Jesus. How can we show our thanks?

*“Thank the Lord and praise his name! Tell the world about his wonderful love.”* Isaiah 12:4 (LB)

1. How does telling the world about God’s love show my thanks to God? When you tell others about Jesus, what do you say? What does the word “Gospel” mean to you?

 *“Give an offering to show your thanks to God. Give him what you promised.”* Psalm 50:14 (NCV)

1. What does it look like to give back to God? What kinds of things can we give?

*“Let us please God by serving him with thankful hearts…:”* Hebrews 12:28b (LB)

1. Each one of us was created by God and blessed with unique abilities. How can we discover and then show thanks to God through our unique abilities?

 *“Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus!”* 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NIV)

1. What is the difference between giving thanks “in” all circumstances and giving thanks “for” all circumstances?

**Diving Deeper (optional)**

* One way to show our thanks is by singing—but not just listlessly going along with the songs in church. How can we learn to sing from the heart? If you don’t like to sing, what difference could a heart of obedience make?
* Psalm 105:1 tells us to *“give thanks to the Lord and pray to him.”* Take a few moments to pray and thank God for his characteristics, listed in question 1, that prompt us to be thankful.

**Conclusion:** God wants you to practice living life as your Thanksgiving gift to God now so that when you get to heaven; heaven will not be awkward or uncomfortable for you. You’ll be a pro at eternally living life as your thanksgiving gift to God.

**PRAYERS:**

Our Father we thank You, we praise You for who You are. We don’t want this Thanksgiving

week to end without taking just a moment to focus on You. Lord, for some of us, this is

something we do all the time. Many of us, not very often. Some of us haven’t prayed

in a long time. But right now we take this moment knowing that You’re here just to say we

praise You that You are such a great God. We see it in everything You have made. We see it in

the way You made us. Thank you for Your greatness and I pray that You help us to see every

problem that we have and every victory that we have in the light of Your greatness. Thank You

for the holiness that You have God. Perfect integrity. Help our lives to be changed by the

perfection of who You are. And God, we thank You for Your love. We praise You that You’re

a God of awesome love, perfect goodness. Your justice is unequaled. You will always win out

in the end. We lean into this right now, who You are that we can count on You. A love that will

never fail us. A goodness that will always be with us. A justice that will always win in the end.

God, we praise You, right now, for who You are. We do this together as Your family. In Jesus’

name. Amen.

If you’ve never opened your life to Jesus Christ, this is where you start. Say, “Jesus Christ, as my thank you gift to You I give You my life. You gave it to me. I give it back to You and I want to follow You from this day forward. I want to trust You and love You. And I humbly say this with great gratitude.” Amen.