

November 2022 Worship Guide

CHERRYVALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 709 CHERRY HILL DR, STAUNTON VA - 540 885 0098

This booklet contains the outline for each worship service during the month of November 2022.

As of the time of going to print, Sunday worship is in person, online and broadcast on the radio (you can listen in your car on FM 87.9, in the church parking lot). If you are not able to attend in person, you can watch online on our website and YouTube channel. Even if we are not worshipping in the same building, we are still one body, one family, we are brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. Look up the scriptures referenced in the following pages; pray the words, and claim the promises for you and your family. - Pastor Jonathan

Cultivating a Spirit of Thankfulness

Even though we may stuff ourselves at the dinner table, celebrating Thanksgiving can actually make us healthier judging by recent research. Studies have shown that being thankful improves our physical and emotional health. Holding on to feelings of thankfulness boosts our immune system and increases blood supply to our heart. Daily guided exercises or the habit of keeping a weekly gratitude journal can increase our alertness, enthusiasm, and energy, and improve our sleep. People who describe themselves as feeling grateful tend to suffer less stress and depression than the rest of the population.

For all its benefits, gratitude doesn't come naturally to us. As Jesus passed through a village one day, he was spotted by ten lepers who desperately longed to be healed (Luke 17:11-19). They kept themselves at a distance as required by law but cried out to him, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" Instead of instantly healing the men, Jesus told them to go and show themselves to the priest. As the ten lepers walked off to obey, their skin disease disappeared.

One of the men turned around, shouting praises to God as he came back to Jesus. He threw himself at his benefactor's feet. Jesus expressed amazement that only one man had thought to thank him. "Were not all ten cleansed?" he asked. "Where are the other nine?" He also pointed out that the only man who did respond was a Samaritan, a race despised by the Jewish people.

For Christians, cultivating a spirit of thankfulness is more than a good idea; it's a direct command from God. In the Old Testament, God laid down specific guidelines for the Israelites to bring thank offerings. In the New Testament, believers are instructed to be thankful in all circumstances (1 Thessalonians 5:18). When we're struggling with trials and difficulties, this sounds like a strange command, especially since we live in a culture that encourages us to act on the basis of how we feel. But God knows that when we focus on our blessings, it's easier to keep our problems and concerns in the right perspective.

King David never lost his keen awareness of all that God had done for the nation of Israel and for him personally. Even though he experienced disappointment, pain, and heartache, David often poured out his feelings of thankfulness to his Creator and Lord. That gratitude became the foundation of his worship of God.

Cultivating a spirit of thankfulness honors God and strengthens our faith. It also strengthens our relationships with other people. We can't be in a right relationship with God or with anyone without a spirit of thankfulness. No matter what problems we're struggling with, we don't want to be like the nine former lepers who forgot to say "thank you" to their Healer.

I will give thanks to you with all my heart, O Lord my God. I will honor you forever because your mercy toward me is great. Psalm 86:12-13 (God's Word translation)

Ask yourself: How often do I express gratitude to God or to other people?

NOVEMBER WORSHIP

Worship Nov 6 - All Saints Sunday

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Hag 1:15b-2:9; Ps 145:1-5, 17-21; 2 Thes 2:1-5, 13-17; Lk 20:27-38

Call to Worship

Come and let us bless God's holy name. We give you thanks and bless your holy name O God of the living. For considering us worthy of a place in the resurrection from the dead: We give you thanks and bless your holy name O God of the living. For making us children of the resurrection who will never die: We give you thanks and bless your holy name O God of the living. For all your servants who, having finished their course, now rest from their labors: We give you thanks and bless your holy name O God of the living.

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, although we are the communion of saints, we are also a circle of sinners. We cling to death, hiding in tombs that we have carved out of fear and stubbornness, ignoring your call to come out. We fail to unbind each other from oppression, poverty, and abuse. You lay a feast before us, but we fill ourselves with selfishness and wonder why we are hungry. We are convinced that our best days are behind us, not believing that you are making all things new. Forgive us, we pray, and show us the light that we yearn to see. Lead us out of the tombs of death and into your everlasting way, because you are God of the living.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. We bless your holy name, O God, for all your servants who, having finished their course, now rest from their labors. Give us grace to follow the example of their steadfastness and faithfulness, to your honor and glory. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, and surrounded by the great cloud of witnesses, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Worship Nov 13

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Isa 65:17-25; Isa 12 or Ps 118; 2 Thes 3:6-13; Lk 21:5-19

Call to Worship

O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory. The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we often would rather take care our human made structures rather than your divinely made people. We are often led astray from you by false voices that try to lure us into a false security. We see wars, hatred, and violence everywhere, yet despair of ever stopping them. We see oppression, injustice, and persecution but fail to raise our voices in prophetic protest. Forgive us, Lord. Help us to remember the vision set before us in Isaiah, of a new Heaven and a new Earth, so that we will not be idle in our walk with you. Empower us to work, by your Spirit, to bring in your Kingdom around us!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy God who calls us to the journey: it is so easy for us to become distracted so that we wander off the path you have put before us. The chaos of the world around us catches our attention, and we neglect the inner journey that keeps us closer to you. As we set aside this time to bring our gifts to you, may you draw our attention back to the wisdom and guidance that you put before us, and may it lead us to endurance that will carry us to kingdom presence! In Christ, we pray. Amen.

NOVEMBER WORSHIP

Worship Nov 20 - Christ The King Sunday

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Jer 23:1-6; Lk 1:68-79; Col 1:11-20; Lk 23:33-43

Call to Worship

Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations he has brought on the earth. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. "Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth." The LORD of hosts is with us; the King of glory we praise this day

Prayer of Confession

Exalted Lord, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross, that all people might come within the reach of your saving embrace. Forgive us when we close off your embrace from ourselves and from others. Forgive us when we exalt ourselves instead of you. Forgive us when we outcast others with our words and actions. Clothe us in your Spirit, that we, stretching out our hands in loving service for others, may bring those who do not know you to an awareness and love of you.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty, Creator God, we humbly bring our gifts to you this day. On Calvary's cross, your son redefined for the world what it meant to rule, what it meant to be a king. In his life, teaching and interacting with people, Jesus redefined what it means to give in a way that pleases God. May we in this season live and give in a way that reflects the reign over us and the one who lives within us. In the exalted name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Worship Nov 27 - First Sunday in Advent

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Isa 2:1-5; Ps 122; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:36-44

Call to Worship - Lighting the First Advent Candle

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'" (Psalm 122:1 NRSV) We are glad. Whether we drove in or climbed up, whether we logged on or tuned in. We are glad to be here in this community, with this family. It is a place of joyful hope, of radical welcome. It is a place where, together, we can wait in wondrous anticipation of the kingdom to come. "Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that God may teach us God's ways and that we may walk in God's paths'" (Isaiah 2:3 NRSV). We light this candle as a sign of our hope, our joyous hope that we can be restored – our faith restored, our strength restored, our confidence restored, our joy restored as we watch and wait with all God's people for the promise to be fulfilled.

Prayer of Confession

Lord of all times, we come into your presence asking your forgiveness. We have failed to live as people of the present. We have wasted our moments, wanting the future now, seeing our dreams as the answer to today's problems. Rather than seeing your blessing in each day, we have looked backward to glory days that seem glorious only in their passing. Open our eyes to our mission at hand. Open our ears to your message to us today, that we might share in bringing the good news of your salvation to the world.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of peace and justice, we thank you for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit working to bring forth the day that Isaiah saw in his heart when swords are pounded into plowshares. Bless these gifts we give this morning, may they be used to make human hearts ready for peace and for the reign of your Son. In his holy name, we pray. Amen.

Verona Food Pantry

This list is a guide line, any item you can give is welcomed. Drop off at the office before the end of the month.

January - Cereal
February - peanut butter
March - canned veggies
April - mac 'n' cheese
May - canned meat / fish
June - canned fruit
July - staples, rice, beans, pasta
August - cereal
September - peanut butter
October - canned veggies
November - anything 'thanksgiving'
December - Pot Luck

The following list was shared by a food bank volunteer.

There are some excellent suggestions if you are ever unsure what to give, or if you see these items on sale. Fresh items should be taken directly to the food pantry.

1. Everyone donates Kraft Mac & Cheese in the box, but it needs milk & butter which is hard to get from food banks.
2. Boxed Milk is a treasure. Kids need it for cereal, which they get a lot of.
3. Everyone donates pasta sauce & spaghetti noodles.
4. Canned Foods should be Pop Tops OR donate Can Openers.
5. Oil is a luxury needed for Rice a Roni which they get a lot of.
6. Spices, Salt & Pepper are a real gift.
7. Tea bags & Coffee are caring gifts.
8. Sugar & Flour are treats.
9. Important are fresh produce donated by farmers & grocery stores.
10. Seeds are great in spring & summer because growing can be easy for some.
11. Rarely is there fresh meat.
12. Tuna & Crackers make a good lunch.
13. Hamburger Helper goes nowhere without ground beef.
14. They get lots of peanut butter and jelly but NEED sandwich bread.
15. Butter or Margarine are good.
16. Eggs are a commodity!
17. Cake mix & Frosting makes it possible to make a child's birthday cake.
18. Dishwashing Detergent is very expensive & is always appreciated.
19. Feminine hygiene products are a luxury & women will cry over them.
20. Everyone loves Stove Top Stuffing.

If you would like to make a monetary donation to the food pantry, note your check 'food pantry' and we will take care of getting it to them for you.

Bible Verses on Thanksgiving

The word thanksgiving literally describes the grateful acknowledgment of past mercies:

Psalm 26:7, "That I may proclaim with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all Your wondrous works." (NKJV)

When you've experienced the loving-kindness of God, it's hard to keep it quiet. In fact, reminders show up time and time again putting us in remembrance of how good God has been to us.

Psalm 69:30, "I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify Him with thanksgiving." (NKJV)

Even when life throws a few curve balls, and it's (at first) by choice to praise and honor God for His faithfulness, it doesn't take long before our act of faith turns our heart around. The Holy Spirit is so gracious to whisper, "If He did it once, He'll do it again."

Psalm 95:2, "Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms." (NKJV)

Children are so care-free when it comes to singing and making joyful noises. It's a shame when adults lose that somewhere along the way. But oh, happy is the one who finds it again...! As one translation says, "Come, let's raise the roof for the Rock that saved us!" (MSG)

Psalm 100:4, "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name." (NKJV)

God created His people to know Him and praise Him. And the password to His presence is "thank you!" Those who know their God have found access to Him by their gratitude.

2 Corinthians 4:15, "For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God." (NKJV)

It's a benefit to the one who has discovered the joy of eternal life, to turn that joy into praise and thanksgiving. The result is more people receiving the gift of salvation through our praise because it draws attention to the One all are looking for.

2 Corinthians 9:11, "Thus you will be enriched in all things and in every way, so that you can be generous, and [your generosity as it is] administered by us will bring forth thanksgiving to God." (AMPC)

Every parent loves to see their children grateful for gifts at Christmas or birthdays. The same is true year-round. And our Heavenly Father is no different. As we imitate Him in generosity (with thanksgiving), others will joyfully express their thanks to God too.

Revelation 7:12, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor and power and might, BE to our God forever and ever." (NKJV)

It will be the final hymn of all-time: to give praise and honor to God with unending thankfulness!

Why not start practicing now? It's amazing what doors of grace are opened to thankful hearts.

Happiness seems to be a rare quality these days. But maybe it's because thankfulness is rare too. So be thankful today! Joy and happiness are sure to follow!

Thanksgiving - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Just for fun, or use as a teaching aide with your younger family members.

T E S Y I F O M T I S C P E R N H B R K S P J V W Y Y U S C
H H R G J B J L H V E E E R V P Q E G R L E H X Y N L E P M
E B A T C L L L C L I S J D Y J S M E E S Z L W M N A T L V
H C Q N G C P U J R R N J D T T K W A Z B E L J K T R A W U
K D W K K L G V E O O I K N A W O S C B S E R C U S M I Q X
O Z F B V T P K R O P A C N H L A D F J M R V F R I L U E N
Q W A Y T F H A B A F M D E F N Q Y O X G B J G L S J K L V
O N K H N C E E W M N S T V T P W I E O X G T S N Q X T U C
W S K U H H R P E V H E T S T S S P C R F N H N K F S H G U
K P U D E B D E W E N Y H R M P D B T P H I V L A H X Y M I
Y U H W Q L V O L D Q A Z Q E T E E W S H L K U Q R Z K T L
F Q V U S O V T E Y D K T Y F A W L M D O O E N U T G J K I
F B L O O M E R W E B G K V A F M Y C Q Y O G M Z H Q A B F
Z Z F A T R G L O J J I G Q T O Z A R W P C L K Z R X G R Y
D O J Y R R P I Z P C H M F H A I E H T L A E H E D M Q C F
B R M Y A C M G Z Y P H L L E F A E T H Y G O O D N E S S M
N X I S Z R Q H J D Q V Z L R E H B L O O M I N G T R E E S
A E S B T V P T R A E H H D I Z T F A U S E H C N A R B I J
M X W L F B I M I B W I A O U B H O W Z W F G I P C G O D B
S F I M I O K I C N K W W Z A T M M Z A D U E V D Y S V S C
O O L Z O Z G T U T K Z E D N G E U T K E L S S M A K I R X
X H R D N R W N D I D W E I S L V H M P V D P A V S Y Y N W
W G B N L K N W O Z A U K O H S O O U B N K U T Q A I T C Q
D H O D F H L I V S Z Y W X Z G L T Q E Y A W J S S Y K Z B
P N J Y R S Q S N N C L O P L B V Y I C V K T K S B H E S A
O T Y T I H F V S G H E A V E N T R M L U X X H F O K Y K G
K A F B M F H Z G J K D C V O U F I A P N S R D L T E K M T
E E K X T E C M Q K Z J O X A J G M X J N J W P B G D V C H
O V Z V Q G W J A F U W W E O F F F H G K D Y E B V N N G L
G E D E P M B I A J C X B W P J E I S H A R B T W I Q M J M

Find the **27 bold** words or phrases from a Poem of Thanksgiving

For **flowers** that **bloom** about our **feet**,
Father, we thank Thee.

For **tender grass** so fresh, so **sweet**,
Father, we thank Thee.

For the **song of bird** and **hum of bee**,
for all things fair **we hear or see**,
Father in **heaven**, we thank Thee.

For **blue of stream** and blue of **sky**,
Father, we thank Thee.

For **pleasant shade** of **branches** high,
Father, we thank Thee.

For **fragrant** air and **cooling breeze**,
for **beauty** of the **blooming trees**,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

For this **new morning** with its **light**,
Father, we thank Thee.

For **rest and shelter** of the night,
Father, we thank Thee

For **health** and **food**, for **love** and **friends**,
for everything **Thy goodness** sends,
Father in heaven, we **thank Thee**.

CHERRY BERRY CHRISTMAS SHOPPE & CRAFT FAIR

FAMILY FRIENDLY CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AT CHERRYVALE CHURCH

ARTS & CRAFT VENDORS | CHRISTMAS TREES
DECORATIONS | BAKE SALE | BREAKFAST FOOD
KIDS CRAFTS & FACE PAINTING
HAND-MADE GOODS | ARTISAN JEWELRY |
HOLIDAY TREATS

DECEMBER 3, 2022  8AM-5PM

We are still collecting items for the Christmas Shoppe

Contact the office or Cathy Ward if you need pick up service.

Bake Sale items needed - there is nothing better than good old fashioned home baked pies and cakes for the holiday. We need your help with bake sale items. Please contact the office or Dot Gilbert for more information.

There will be 18 vendors selling their art, crafts, jewelry and home decoration goods at the Cherry Berry Christmas Shoppe. Posters to be distributed around our community will be printed up. If you can display one in your neighborhood, work place or social environment, please contact the office.

***Most of all we need your support for this, our first Christmas Shoppe and Craft Fair.
Please talk about this event with your family, friends, co-workers and neighbors.***

You can now manage your membership account details in our Engage' portal.

Use this QR code to be directed to our site, and follow the online prompts.

Or visit <https://engage.suran.com/cherryvaleumc>

