

SERMON NOTES

November 22 & 23, 2025

Thankful Anyway

Life Steps

Thankful Anyway | November 24-30, 2025

Monday

Psalm 34:18

Reflect: No one is exempt from a broken heart or a crushed spirit in this life. It is in these moments that God can do a new work in us. Remember a time when you were crushed in spirit. How did God help, or how are you praying God helps you?

Prayer: God, thank You for being as close to me as my own heartbeat. Thank you for the healing I can find in Your presence. Amen.

Tuesday

John 11:33-36

Reflect: Sometimes we deny our feelings room to be present and in doing so, block our ability to experience gratitude. Jesus wept. To be like Jesus is to allow ourselves to feel what we feel. What are you feeling as you move towards Thanksgiving?

Prayer: God, search me and help me be known to myself as You know me. I am thankful that Jesus demonstrates it is ok to not be ok. Amen.

Wednesday

Ephesians 2:19-21

Reflect: From the creation of the universe to the establishment of His eternal kingdom, God's architectural genius is evident in the spiritual and physical realms. How do you sense God working in your life so you might "become a dwelling in which God lives?"

Prayer: Divine architect and creator of my soul, thank you for working in my life to restore, remodel, and renew all things broken so I might be a witness to your living, healing presence. Amen.

Thursday

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Reflect: Gratitude improves your mood, mental and physical health, the quality of your relationships, and honors God. Set a timer to three minutes and quickly name as many people, things, and works of God for which you are grateful. Let your heart and mind run free, from the simple to the miraculous.

Prayer: God, for all of these people, for the simple and the sublime, for the evidence of your hand at work in my life, thank you, thank you, thank you! Amen.

Friday

Philippians 4:12

Reflect: Thanksgiving is over. Advent is upon us. As you reflect on how this week went, were you able to practice contentment in solitude? If so, how did it affect your level of gratitude?

Prayer: God, your presence is enough. When I'm fully in your presence, I want and need nothing more. Thank you for being the prime source of my gratitude, my contentment, my very being. Amen.

Saturday

Psalm 27:13-14

Reflect: Gratitude is seated in the goodness of God. Where did you see the goodness of God this week? Did you notice where God moved, where God acted? Take a moment and think through the different God moments this week, and say a prayer of thanksgiving for the goodness of God.

Prayer: God, thank you for moving and acting, even in the moments where I missed it. Your goodness is everywhere. Help me notice your beauty in every season. Amen.

Sunday

Isaiah 9:6

Reflect: Today marks the first day of Advent, the season where we prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of Jesus. How does the news that the government will be on his shoulders, and he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace, increase your hope?

Prayer: God of everlasting hope, today I will worship you for you are my Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Come, Lord Jesus, come. All my hope is in you. Amen.