

our heritage



authentic
love



radical
generosity



hopeful
partnership



intense
spirituality



faithful
risk



passionate
mission

Colossians 3:11-17 (NLT)

¹¹ In this new life, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us.

¹² Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. ¹³ Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.

¹⁶ Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. ¹⁷ And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

There's a difference between **SAYING** thanks
and **GIVING** thanks.



For our church family, I'm... _____ _____ _____	For me [my family], I'm... _____ _____ _____
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For our church family, I'm... _____ _____ _____	For me [my family], I'm... _____ _____ _____
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For our church family, I'm... _____ _____ _____	For me [my family], I'm... _____ _____ _____
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For our church family, I'm... _____ _____ _____	For me [my family], I'm... _____ _____ _____
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For our church family, I'm... _____ _____ _____	For me [my family], I'm... _____ _____ _____
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For our church family, I'm... _____ _____ _____	For me [my family], I'm... _____ _____ _____
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Luke 22:18-20 (NIV)

¹⁸ For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” ¹⁹ And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.”

²⁰ In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.”

Notes:

“The practice of giving thanks...eucharist...this is the way we practice the presence of God, stay present to His presence, and it is always a practice of the eyes. We don't have to change what we see. Only the way we see.”

— Ann Voskamp

Prayer of the People

Throughout "Our Heritage," we are inviting the entire Heritage family to participate in what some traditions have called "Prayers of the People." These prayers provide an opportunity to connect with God in one heart and voice even as we disperse through the week.

This week, we invite you to conclude our journey through Our Heritage with this prayer by Linda Douty:

Send us forth, O God, with every breath a thanksgiving, every thought wrapped in compassion, every word filled with kindness, and every deed a channel of love. Through your grace may our lives become a prayer. Amen.



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How to start a relationship with God:

- 1) *Admitting* that you, like everyone, are in need of rescue.
- 2) *Asking* God to forgive your sins.
- 3) *Saying YES to God by trusting Jesus as Savior & Lord.*

You can do that right now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I receive you as my Savior; and I put my faith in you as my LORD. Help me to look to you and follow you all the days of my life. In Your name, Amen.

For Further Reflection:

:: As you reflect on the “Our Heritage” conversation and the values that we interacted with:

:: Which value feels the most accessible and which feels most aspirational?

:: Why do you think that is?

:: What would it look like for you to practice the presence of God in your rhythm of life?

Re-read Colossians 3:11-17.

:: What challenges you in this passage?

:: How does your life reflect that “Christ is all that matters...”?

:: What would it look like to live as “always thankful”?

:: What encouragement do you find in these verses?

:: If you didn’t do the gratitude exercise in the sermon guide, we encourage you to do that now. Gratitude is a posture that we must cultivate - it is the lens that we can choose to put on when we look at our circumstances in life.

:: What are you most grateful for right now in your life?

:: Who should you share that with?