

November 9, 2025 Colossians 3:14-17

Sermon Title: "Give Thanks to God the Father Through Him"

3:11 where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

3:12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;

3:13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

3:14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.

3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

3:17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

[From Today's Sermon]

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts," "let the word of Christ dwell in you richly," and "whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus..." "Always be thankful," "give thanks to God with a heart of praise," "give thanks to God the Father through him (Christ)"—today's passage depicts the teaching "through Jesus Christ" and "give thanks" three times. "Through Jesus Christ" and "Give thanks."

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts" literally means, "Welcome the peace and harmony of Christ into your hearts as your judge, examiner, and umpire, and act accordingly." It's like always having a signal light in your heart—green, yellow, or red—where the peace and harmony found in Christ speaks to us. Deeply contemplating how Christ always loved profound harmony with God the Father, walking rooted in the peace of love and humility, we make this the principle of our actions. In this way, "let the word of Christ dwell in you richly," and "whether in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus." This is the content of teaching and admonishing one another, from which gratitude and praise to God the Father spread forth. Here lies an endless path to gratitude.

Good morning, everyone.

The mornings and evenings are growing increasingly cold. We've begun hearing reports of

heavy frost. When driving out in the mornings or evenings, you might find your car windows frozen over. I hope you've all been keeping well.

Last week's passage continued with beautiful words.

3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

3:13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

3:14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

We are God's chosen ones. Holy, beloved. Chosen, set apart, loved. Why did God choose me for such a holy purpose, allowing me to join this elite corps? Here is love, here is compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. First of all, God poured these out on us.

1 Corinthians 13:4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

13:5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

13:6 It does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.

13:7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

13:8 Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.

1 John 4:7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Love is from God; everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

4:8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

4:9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

4:10 It was not that we loved God, but that God loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Herein lies love.

4:11 Beloved, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

4:12 No one has ever seen God. If we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

Romans 5:1 Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord

Jesus Christ.

5:2 And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

5:3 Not only that, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance;

5:4 perseverance, character; and character, hope.

5:5 And hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

5:6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

5:7 For one might scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die.

5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

John 15:12 This is my commandment: Love one another as I have loved you.

15:13 Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

15:14 You are my friends if you do what I command you.

15:15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for everything that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

15:16 You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you, so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

15:17 This is my commandment: Love one another.

God, so to speak, took the initiative and loved us first. Through this, we came to know love.

1 John 3:9 Whoever is born of God does not sin, for God's seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

3:10 By this it is evident who are the children of God and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

3:11 For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

3:12 Do not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. Why did he kill him? Because his own deeds were evil, and his brother's were righteous.

3:13 Beloved, do not be surprised if the world hates you.

3:14 We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers. Whoever does not love remains in death.

3:15 You know that everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

3:16 By this we know love, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

3:13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

3:14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, we are to share love with one another, just as God has done for us. That is why we were called.

Colossians 1:13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves.

1:14 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins.

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

1 Peter 2:22 Christ committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.

2:23 When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but committed himself to him who judges justly.

2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

2:25 You were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

1:2 He was with God in the beginning.

1:3 Through him all things were made; Nothing was made without him.

1:4 In him was life, and that life was the light of men.

1:5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Matthew 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

28:19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

28:20 teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

3:14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

3:15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

Love is the perfect bond that ties everything together.

3:11 There is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, or free. Christ is all, and is in all.

Overcoming differences and positions, united in solidarity through God's love, truly blended into one organic body, one community. That is our family, God's household, and the church, which is God's body.

Romans 12:9 Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.

12:10 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.

12:11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

12:12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in affliction, and persevere in prayer.

12:13 Share with the saints who are in need. Practice hospitality.

12:14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

12:16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own estimation.

12:17 Never repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone.

12:18 Live peaceably with all men, as much as possible.

12:19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.

12:20 On the contrary, “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. By doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.”

12:21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Galatians 6:1 Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted.

6:2 Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

This is how we live as a community united by the belt of God's love. And our prayer is that this way of life may spread throughout the entire world God created.

3:15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

The word “rule” means to submit oneself strictly to a rule, like a baseball umpire calling each pitch a strike or a ball, or a judge making a ruling by strictly upholding the law. That rule is “the peace of Christ.”

The word ‘peace’ carries the meaning of harmony. The word “peace” also includes the meaning of tranquility. Christ came to bring this peace.

Ephesians 2:11 Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcised” by those who are called “the circumcised” (that is, by those who are circumcised in the flesh by men)—

2:12 who at that time were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

2:13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

2:14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility,

2:15 by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. He came and made peace through one body, thus establishing the two into one new man.

2:16 By the cross he reconciled both of them to God in one body through the cross, thus

putting to death the hostility.

2:17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.

2:18 For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

2:19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.

Colossians 1:19 For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, 1:20 and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

1:21 And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind because of your evil deeds,

1:22 But now, through the death of his body of flesh, he has reconciled you by his blood to God, so that you may stand before him holy, blameless, and irreproachable.

1 Corinthians 7:15 ... God has called you to live in peace.

The peace of Christ. Through His love and redemption—laying down His life for His friends—we have obtained peace with God. Jesus, not as one to be served but as one who serves, fully expressed that love. We too desire to live guided by that same heart of peace and harmony found in Jesus. Bound together by the bond of love, we overflow with gratitude within that peace and harmony.

Colossians 2:6 As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him.

2:7 Rooted and built up in him and established in your faith, just as you were taught, overflowing with thankfulness.

2:8 See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.

2:9 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity dwells in bodily form,

2:10 and you have been filled in him, who is the head over every power and authority.

3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. Teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

I desire to live within the teachings and admonitions of Christ's word, treasuring it.

John 8:31 Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.

8:32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

John 15:5 I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

15:6 If a man does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

15:7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

15:8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

15:9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Remain in my love.

15:10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

And teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Therefore, let us hold fast to the word of life, helping and encouraging one another, so that we may live in a life of thanksgiving and praise.

John 6:33 “The bread of God is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

6:34 They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

6:35 Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

6:68 Simon Peter answered him, ”Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

6:69 We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

14:7 If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philippians 2:12 Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence but now much more in my absence—work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

2:13 For it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

2:14 Do everything without grumbling or arguing.

2:15 This is so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life.

2:16 So that on the day of Christ I may boast that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

2:17 But even if I am being poured out as a drink offering upon the altar of your sacrifice and service, I am glad and rejoice with you all.

2:18 Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

3:17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

"In the name of the Lord Jesus"—this is our goal.

Hebrews 12:1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

12:2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

12:3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Ephesians 4:12 This is to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,

4:13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Live by the peace of Christ. Live by the word of Christ. Live by Christ in all you do. This leads us to a life of threefold thanksgiving and praise. Let us offer prayers of thanksgiving to the One who gives us such wonderful grace, salvation, and gratitude, and fills us.

◇Prayer; Heavenly Father God, we thank You for today's worship. We are truly thankful that, protected by Christ's peace and Christ's word, whatever we speak or do, we are guided in the name of the Lord Jesus. May our lives be led from thanksgiving to thanksgiving, from praise to praise, as we teach and help one another. Please lead all those who suffer into God's salvation and peace. Bless our families and our neighbors. Use us. We pray in the name of the Lord Jesus. Amen.