



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

November 22, 2015

P.O. Box 416  
129 S. Chamberlain Ave.  
Rockwood, TN 37854  
865-354-0855

**Elders:**

Dana Carter  
Kenneth Carter  
Don Chandler

**Deacons:**

Kendall Bear  
Larry Brackett  
Roger Carter  
Steve McCreary

**Minister:**

Kirby Hinds

**Secretary:**

Susan Chandler

**Service Times:**

**Sunday**

Bible Study 10 am  
Worship Service 10:45 am  
Worship Service 6 pm

**Wednesday**

Bible Study 7:30 pm

**Monday**

Ladies class 10:00 a.m.

**Email:**

rockwdcc@gmail.com

**Website:**

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

## THANKSGIVING EVERY DAY

By Paul Sain

A national holiday – one of our favorites – the very word conjures thoughts of delicious food and family gatherings. Yet, may we consider and strive to make **every day** a day of *Thanksgiving!*

Let us be continually **THANKFUL** for *family and friends*. We are so fortunate and rich to have those who care, love and share with us the joys and troubles of life.

May we always express our **THANKS** for our *county, state and country* in which we live. America is great (even with its current problems) – the greatest in the world. It is impossible for most to grasp how blessed we are compared to the majority throughout the world.

Our heart should be filled with **GRATITUDE** for our *wealth*. Yes we are rich (even when we struggle, have difficulty meeting our obligations, etc.). Money to buy even our “*necessities*” (however we may define them) is far more than many enjoy.

Our lives should regularly reflect **GIVING THANKS** for our *health*. Understandably we may have aches and pains, wish and pray for present difficulties to be removed – but as we look around – there are always those who are less fortunate, suffering even more, enduring unbearable affirmatives in their lives.

We owe a great **DEBT** for *those who have gone before*. So many have sacrificed so much to enable all to enjoy what we have and where we are today. Consider what our parents and grandparents have done for us. Think seriously about the hundreds of thousands who have fought in war, defending and making possible our freedom today. Pause and appreciate the special people who taught us about God, His Word, and right from wrong.

Most of all, let us acknowledge, appreciate, **EVER BE THANKFUL** for our *spiritual blessings* in Jesus Christ (**Ephesians 1:3**). Things do not matter (**Luke 12:17**). Wealth will soon (if the world continues) be given into the hands of others. Our bodies will fail and death will remove us from this brief journey. But, the unspeakable gift of God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ makes possible our eternal existence in a mansion that is more glorious and wonderful than our minds can grasp. Forgiven of our sins – reconciled to our Almighty Father – an heir of the Creator of the world – a brother or sister to the greatest of the world – assured that we are never alone – confident that nothing can separate us from the love of God – *richly blessed!*

## THANKS BE UNTO GOD

We praise (**Hebrews 13:15-16**), preach (**Romans 8:28**) and pray (**I Timothy 2:1**) about God's great giving and goodness. He is the giver of every good and perfect gift (**James 1:17**). For all His goodness we are eternally thankful! What are some of the great blessings and benefits given to us by God for which we should always be thankful?

**Thank God for His goodness (Romans 2:4).** God's goodness is intended to cause man to repent. Oh how good God has been to us when we had no goodness demanding His mercy (**II Corinthians 7:9-11; Acts 17:30-31; II Peter 3:9**).

**Thank God for His love (John 3:16).** **John 3:16** has long been celebrated as a powerful and succinct declaration of the Gospel. Of the 31,373 verse in the Bible, it may be the most popular single verse used in evangelism.

**Thank God for His gift (II Corinthians 9:15).** If we really understand and appreciate the "indescribable gift" God has given us, our lives will be saturated with gratitude; we will praise and proclaim His excellence (**I Peter 2:9-10**).

**Thank God for His blessings (Ephesians 1:3).** Paul called for a blessing upon the Father (in the sense of recognizing His glory, honor and goodness), because the Father has already blessed the Christian with every spiritual blessing. For physical and spiritual blessings, Christians should be thankful.

**Thank God for His grace and mercy (Titus 2:11-12).** The ancient Greek word for teaching has in mind what a parent does for a child. It speaks of the entire training process: teaching, encouragement, correction, and discipline. Grace is a teacher in this sense and a powerful teacher it is.

**Thank God for His promises (II Peter 1:4).** God's promises are both exceedingly great (in the sense of being large and imposing), and they are precious, in the sense of being valuable. We might break a promise, but not God!

**Thank God for His word (II Timothy 3:16).** The Bible gives us eternal life (**I Peter 1:23**). The Bible spiritually cleanses us (**Ephesians 5:26**). The Bible brings us spiritual strength (**Psalms 119:28**). The Bible builds faith in us (**Romans 10:17**).

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