



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

November 26, 2017

### TRUST THE LORD

*“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding” (Proverbs 3:5).* Applying this verse is sometimes extremely difficult. The pressures and anxieties of life can lead us to trust in worldly wisdom rather than in our all-knowing God. However, real peace and strength are only found when we place our confidence in Him (**Psalms 32:1; 125:1**). We should trust the Lord:

**IN EVERYTHING.** *“In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths” (Proverbs 3:6).* Many people seem to revel in their independence; they view themselves as being self-sufficient, and have little or no room for God in their life (**Revelation 3:17**). But nothing could be farther from the truth! Trusting the Lord in everything shows our realization of our own insufficiency (**James 4:10**), and our desperate need for God’s help. *“And the LORD shall help them...Because they trust in Him.” (Psalms 37:40).*

**FOR EVERYTHING.** *“Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass” (Psalms 37:5).* Every good and perfect gift comes from the Heavenly Father (**James 1:17**). It is easy for us to think that everything we have was attained solely through our own efforts, but this is simply not so. It is through God that we live and move, and have our very being (**Acts 17:28**).

**WITH EVERYTHING.** *“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21).* Some people cling to their possessions or pride as though they were going to have them forever. The folly of this thinking will sadly carry over into eternity. To the faithful child of God, the Father must come first (**Matthew 6:33; Luke 14:25-33**). When we trust in God with our all, then we have our priorities set properly.

**THROUGH EVERYTHING.** *“For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory” (II Corinthians 4:17).* We need to trust in Him even in the midst of trials and sufferings, for although we may not understand the purpose of those difficulties, we still can live righteously before God and glorify Him. *“The LORD redeems the soul of His servants, and none of those who trust in Him shall be condemned” (Psalms 34:22).*

May we truly be able to say, “In God We Trust!”

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Todd Houston

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**Service Times:**

**Sunday**

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

**Wednesday**

Bible Study 7:30 pm

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## STEWARDSHIP

The apostle Peter, shortly before his execution in Rome, spoke of his readiness to remind the people of God of some of the basic essentials of their Christian walk, even though these were matters about which they had heard much teaching and thus were quite familiar (**II Peter 1:12-15**). Sometimes we simply need to have our memories jogged, as we all tend to become forgetful at times of some of the responsibilities placed upon us by our Lord.

One such area in which we each frequently need to have our personal level of commitment and devotion challenged is **Giving**. This is not always a pleasant topic of discussion, either for the one in the pulpit or those in the pews, but it is occasionally necessary.

All through the pages of the inspired Scriptures God challenges His people to manifest a spirit of generosity, and to give liberally of themselves, their time, their abilities, and their resources, both financial and otherwise. Not only are we to give to meet the needs of those around us who are less fortunate, but we are also encouraged to give to help assure that the mission of the church is fully carried out. If Christians are not willing to support the work of the church, then that divinely commissioned work is going to remain largely unaccomplished. God's work is too critical, the lives of men too precious, to allow such ever to happen.

God has entrusted us with much, but we must also realize that “*..for everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.*” (**Luke 12:48**). Paul wrote that all those who have been entrusted with the responsibilities of stewardship “*must prove faithful*” (**I Corinthians 4:2**).

We have been richly blessed by our God in so many ways. We are financially better off than the vast majority of the world. We have more leisure time. We are more educated. Our opportunities are unlimited. But, what kind of stewards are we? Are we being faithful to the trust bestowed upon us by our heavenly Father? Let us each carefully consider the level and nature of our giving as we seek daily to live in a manner pleasing to our heavenly Father.

**Al Maxey**