

Pastor Brian's  
Mid Week Message  
November 24, 2021

**“SAYING THANK YOU”**

*“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18)*

Tomorrow is Thanksgiving Day. This evening we'll have our Thanksgiving worship service. This holiday has been established from the beginning as a special time to give thanks where all thanks is do...to the One True God, Father Son and Holy Spirit. Sadly, most in our nation will be leaving God out of the celebration. I thought for my devotional message today I'd give you a list of what I'm thankful for. I am certain that I will leave out many things, but here Goes. **“I AM THANKFUL FOR”**

- First and foremost, for God Himself, My Creator, Sustainer, Redeemer and Life Giver
  - For Jesus my Lord and Savior, who gave His life for me so that I would not be lost forever
  - For being born into a loving Christian family that brought me to baptism as an infant
  - For my wonderful parents who loved and taught me to a humble servant, both are now in glory
  - For my lovely and loving bride Kay, who keeps me humble and is the smartest person I know
  - For my daughter Beth who loves and serves the students that she teaches
  - For my brothers, Rich, Larry and David, their wives, children, and grandchildren
  - For all of Kay's family, another source of Christian inspiration in my life
  - For being born and living in the greatest nation on the planet, these United States of America
  - For being able to live here in SW Florida, and not dealing with snow and ice anymore
  - For all of you, my family in Christ here at TLC, and the love and support we receive from you
  - For St John Lutheran of Spokane, WA who trusted and supported me in becoming a/their pastor
  - For the opportunity to daily do what I love to do, study, preach and teach the Word of God
  - For all the friends that I have made along the way of my/our life's journey
  - For the good health that God has blessed me and my family with
  - For a safe, secure, and comfortable home that has a working air conditioner
  - For never having to turn on the heat since moving to SW Florida
  - For an abundance of food and drink which I am somewhat too happy to consume
  - For recreational opportunities; tennis, boating, and fishing
  - For all of our friends at the Jacaranda West Tennis Club in Venice
  - For all of the travel that Kay and I have been able to do, and look forward to in the future
  - For the fact that I don't have to wear a suit and tie every workday anymore, I did so for nearly 30 years
  - For the beautiful palm trees and flowers that I see every day
  - For clean fresh air to breath and clean water to drink
  - For the thunderstorms that frequent the area in the “rainy season”
  - For the lowered humidity comes from the north in the “dry season”
  - For all of our “seasonal” friends, neighbors, and church family members
  - For all of our full-timer friends, neighbors and church family members
  - For the choir here at TLC, for our talented musicians...and you know who you are!
  - For our dedicated Board of Elders and Church Council who help guide us in our mission and ministry
  - For our Building Committee, and the leadership team of Building to Serve Christ and Community
  - For our current church building which has served us so well
  - For the new and larger church that God is about to provide through us
  - For those who will come to faith in future generations through the faithful work of TLC
- (I'm leaving this space blank to be filled with all the things I think of later on that I'm thankful for)
- For the eternity I'll spend before the throne of God in heaven with all of my beloved church family
- Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. (James 1:17)* So let's all give thanks where thanks is truly due. Thanks be to God!