TODAY'S ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome by: Don Taylor /Opening Prayer by: Bobby Rader

Morning Assembly Song Leader: Phillip Strickhausen

#103 He Has Made Me Glad
#450 Give Me the Bible

Scripture Reading by: Rock Cary
#383 Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross
Lord's Supper and Contribution

#742 When Upon Life's Billows
Sermon: "Much Obliged"
Luke 12:48

#924 Just As I Am
#470 Victory in Jesus

Closing Prayer by: James Scott

Third Sunday Night Singing

Other Opportunities For Spiritual Growth

Sunday: 9:00am — Bible Study Classes, 10:00am — Worship, 5:00pm — Worship
Wednesday: 6:30pm — Bible Study Classes

November 21, 2021

"Stand Firm in…Liberty"

Galatians 5:1

The Gracious Gifts of the Most High God

The origins of Thanksgiving in the United States, of course, go back to the 1621 celebration in Plymouth Colony. There is a lot we get wrong about that story, and it did not lead to an immediate annual observance. But it stood in a great tradition of harvest festivals common to Great Britain and other European countries who colonized the New World: both the Spanish and French conducted thanksgivings in the 16th century, and English settlers in Jamestown held a thanksgiving in 1610.

The concept continued in the colonies in the 17th and 18th centuries. During the American Revolution, the Continental Congress designated days of thanksgiving. In 1789, President George Washington issued the first Thanksgiving proclamation by the national government designating it to be held on Thursday, November 26.

But it was not until 1846 that Sarah Josepha Hale began a campaign to make Thanksgiving a permanent, national holiday. She wrote letters to politicians, editorials, and articles, arguing that it would have a unifying effect that would ease growing sectional tensions.

On October 3, 1863, her efforts finally prompted President Abraham Lincoln to issue a proclamation that ultimately led to Thanksgiving being established as a national holiday. I have reprinted it here, not only because it is of historical interest, but because it was written in extremely trying times. Reflect on what it has to say about all the blessings God has bestowed upon us—a deeply Biblical concept—and realize that in our own troubling days, we still have so much for which to be grateful. Happy Thanksgiving. BP

By the President of the United States
A Proclamation

The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and even soften the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God.

Family News & Notes

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

Our Sick

Virginia Cole, Glenda Wiggins' sister, is recovering from a broken leg and a broken elbow.

Gary Nielsen is in the hospital for testing.

Jackie David, Walden David's mother is in San Jacinto Hospital.

Continued Prayers
(Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Gwen Pettit, Harold & Geri Cryer, Steve Ward, Frank & Tina Garcia, Winston Leifester, Caitlin Smith, Ka'Leisha Jones, Oscar Cantu, Joe Edd Stifflemire

Shut Ins
(Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Jim Smith, Winona Angelle, Myrtle Sheffield, Catherine Parker, Peggy McIntosh

Our Missionaries

Aaron & Marisa Bailey in Montepuez, Mozambique , Rod Kyle in the South Pacific

Upcoming Activities

Elders, Minister, meeting Monday, Nov. 22nd at 5:30 p.m.

The office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 25th & 26th.

Sunday, Nov. 28th we will have a fellowship meal at 5:00 p.m.

We will have a meal on Wednesday, Dec. 1st at 5:30 p.m. in the family life center.

We will have a Houston Food Bank truck on Tuesday, Dec. 7th at 8:00 a.m.

Elders	Deacons	Minister
Ken Coleman	Daniel Balch	Bryant Perkins
Bobby Rader	Danny Balch	
Don Taylor	Phillip Strickhausen	
Robert Ward		

"Stand Firm in…Liberty"
is the weekly bulletin of the Liberty Church of Christ 3201 North Main, Liberty Texas 77575
Office Phone Number (936) 336-2213; Fax (936) 334-8280;
Minister's (Bryant Perkins) Cell Phone Number (903)407-5737
Website: libertycofc.org Facebook page: Liberty Church of Christ

continued from previous page

In the midst of a civil war of unequaled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign states to invite and provoke their aggressions, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere, except in the theater of military conflict; while that theater has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union.

Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plow, the shuttle, or the ship; the ax has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege, and the battlefield, and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom.

No human counsel hath devised, nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American people. I do, therefore, invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a Day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens. And I recommend to them that, while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation, and to restore it, as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes, to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United Stated States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-eighth.

-Abraham Lincoln