

We are people who must sing you,
 for the sake of our very lives.
 You are a God who must be sung by us,
 for the sake of your majesty and honor.
 And so we thank you,
 for lyrics that push us past our reasons,
 for melodies that break open our givens,
 for cadences that locate us home,
 beyond all our safe places,
 for tones and tunes that open our lives beyond control
 and our futures beyond despair.
 We thank you for the long parade of mothers and fathers
 who have sung you deep and true;
 We thank you for the good company of artists, poets,
 musicians, cantors and instruments that sing for us
 and with us, toward you.
 We are witnesses to your mercy and splendor;
 We will not keep silent...
 ever again. Amen

*Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth,
 Prayers of Walter Brueggemann pg 133*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

November 20, 5:00 pm
 All Congregation Dinner
 and Reflection

What are we learning
 about *Living Worship*?

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I am not my own but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.
 He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

Three things:
First, how great my sin and misery are;
Second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery;
Third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.

Sing to God with joy and gladness,
 Hymns and psalms of gratitude;
 With the voice of praise discover
 That to worship God is good.

God unites his scattered people,
 Gathers those who wandered far,
 Heals the hurt and broken spirits,
 Tending every wound and scar.

God's discernment never favors strength or speed to lift or move;
 God delights in those who fear him,
 trusting in his steadfast love.

Sing! A New Creation pg 29

Living Worship



November, 2011

Gratitude

"Thank you, Lord"

A Song of Thanksgiving
 Psalm 92:1-8

Ephesians 3:14-21

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name,

O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning

and your faithfulness at night,

Psalm 92: 1,2

*Princeton Christian
 Reformed Church
 5330 Kalamazoo Ave SE
 Kentwood, MI 49508
 www.princetonrc.org*

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice!
 Look to God, do not be afraid. Lift up your voices, the Lord is near;
 lift up your voices the Lord is near.

Sing! A New Creation page 220

Daily Scripture Readings to Teach us About Gratitude “Thank you, Lord”

November 2011

		1 <i>Col. 1:3-14</i>	2 <i>Psalm 9:1,2</i>	3 <i>Col. 2:6, 7</i>	4 <i>Psalm 7:17</i>	5 <i>Psalm 100</i>
6 <i>Psalm 92:1-8</i>	7 <i>I Cor 4:13-15</i>	8 <i>Neh 12:40-47</i>	9 <i>I Thess.1:1-4</i>	10 <i>Psalm 136</i>	1 <i>Isaiah 12</i>	12 <i>Daniel 6:6-10</i>
13 <i>Eph. 4:14-16</i>	14 <i>Ezra 3:7-13</i>	15 <i>Hebrews 12:28,29</i>	16 <i>Psalm 107</i>	17 <i>Rev. 11:15-17</i>	18 <i>Luke 17:11-19</i>	19 <i>I Chron 16:24-36</i>
20 <i>Psalm 8</i>	21 <i>Col. 3:12-17</i>	22 <i>Psalm 33</i>	23 <i>Phil 4:4-9</i>	24 <i>Psalm 16</i>	25 <i>I Thes.5:16-18</i>	26 <i>I Cor. 11:23-26</i>
27 <i>Psalm 95, 96</i>	28 <i>Psalm 117</i>	29 <i>I Tim. 2:1-4</i>	30 <i>Matt. 14:15-19</i>			

Carry On

Make a word chain of things that you/your family are thankful for. A word chain is when the following word starts with the last letter of the word prior to it. Here's the start of a "Thank you, Lord" word chain: Thank you, :Lord for FRIENDS—SUPPER—ROSES—SLEEP— Post you chain on the fridge or bulletin board and encourage everyone to add words throughout the week.

Walk the Talk

If you don't think you have much to be thankful for, then be thankful for some of the things you don't have. Example: bugs in my bed, dirty drinking water,

Say it!

Find a special way to "thank" those around you this week. Thank a family member for a job well done, for helping out, for cleaning up—thank a teacher, a co-worker, a neighbor, a friend.

Think About it

There are times in our lives when nothing seems to be going right. Yet the Bible calls us to be thankful. How is that possible? The Bible declares that those who know Jesus and his love, experience—no matter what, no matter how bad the news, how deep the hole, how tragic the loss—God's nearness, His compassion, peace and hope. That's how we can be thankful in all circumstances...as Christians through the ages have sung and celebrated even from prison and the stakes of martyrdom, God loves us, saves us and is there for us and that fills us with gratitude no matter what.

From The River, Edmonton, CICW resources

Have we any gift worth giving to the Giver of all things?

What would please the ever-living one true God from whom life springs?

Not dead gold or merchandise, but a living sacrifice;

Worship both profound and freeing, serving God with all our being.

Let us shun the selfish merit worldly wisdom has defined,

But renewed by God's own Spirit be transformed in heart and mind;

By past mercies taught and led, let us seek the path ahead,

Trusting that, like those before us, God will guide us and restore us.

Sing! A New Creation, page 214

Thank God for Church

Talk about what each person in your family enjoyed, heard, learned and wondered about. Start with the youngest and give everyone a chance to share.



When it is easy to say “Thank you” to God?

When is it hard?

We can choose to complain or to be thankful.

What do you choose?

Princeton CRC Worship Renewal Team

Janet Dykema, Grant Project Director

Carolyn Coke
Dorothy Vander Wall
Tracie Wiersma

Laura Jen
Carol Van Valkenburg
Jane Zylstra