

This Autumn, we invite you to
a 6-week Sermon Series
at Christ Church and St Mary's

Exploring Gratitude

2 October – 6 November 2022



Gratitude is more than thankfulness.
It's not an action, it's a way of being.

Timetable

Date	Sunday Sermon Themes
2/10	Gratitude: transforming self Col 3:12-17 and Luke 17:11-19
/10	Gratitude: transforming others Phil 2: 4-7 and Luke24: 13-35
16/10	Gratitude: a planetary perspective Ps 24 and Matt 5:13-16
23/10	Gratitude: in all things 2 Cor 4:7-12 and Luke 23: 44-48
30/10	Gratitude: acts of kindness Eph 6; 10-20 and John 6:1-14
6/11	Gratitude: a legacy Psalm 100 and Matthew 28 v 16 - 20

Inspired by Mary Oliver's poem "The Summer Day"

Who made the world? Who made the swan,
and the black bear?
Who made the grasshopper?
This grasshopper, I mean--
the one who has flung herself out of the
grass,
the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
who is moving her jaws back and forth
instead of up and down--
who is gazing around with her enormous and
complicated eyes.
Now she lifts her pale forearms and
thoroughly washes her face.
Now she snaps her wings open, and floats
away.
I don't know exactly what a prayer is.
I do know how to pay attention, how to fall
down into the grass, how to kneel in the
grass,
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll
through the fields,
which is what I have been doing all day.
Tell me, what else should I have done?
Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your
one wild and precious life?

Gratitude is more than thankfulness; it's not an action, it's a way of being. We can be thankful in the moment but can express it from a place of shallowness. Gratitude speaks of an inherent appreciation, grounded in a quiet self-confidence, and a deep respect for nature and our place in the world.

Powerful Bible Verses About Gratitude - Scriptures on Giving Thanks

Gratitude is a word used to express thankfulness and praise. The Bible teaches us about the power of having a grateful heart. An attitude of thanksgiving has the power to fill us with hope and joy. These **Bible verses about gratitude** will help you focus on the blessings of God and on finding blessings in your everyday living.

The apostle Paul is well known for writing Scriptures about being thankful. Some of his most well-known passages are focused on gratitude including giving thanks for all things, in all circumstances (Ephesians 5:20; 1 Thessalonians 5:18), being thankful even in suffering (Romans 5:3-5; James 1:1-4), and to do everything in the name of Jesus out of a spirit of gratefulness (Colossians 3:17). You can also use [Bible verses about thanksgiving](#) and [Psalms of thanksgiving](#) to help you experience the power of grateful living no matter what you are facing.

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/topical-verses/thanksgiving-bible-verses/>

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/bible-study/topical-studies/psalms-of-thanksgiving.html>

When we give thanks to God in prayer, even when it's hard to, we are promised comfort and provision for our needs. Use this prayer as you meditate on the collection of Bible verses about gratitude

A Prayer for Growth and Gratitude

Dear God, thank you for your amazing power and work in our lives, thank you for your goodness and for your blessings over us. Thank you that your Word teaches us the power of gratitude. Thank you that you are able to bring hope through even the toughest of times, strengthening us for your purposes. Thank you that you are always with us and will never leave us. Forgive us for when we don't thank you enough, for who you are, for all that you do, for all that you've given. Help us to set our eyes and our hearts on you afresh. Renew our spirits, fill us with your peace and joy. We love you and we need you, this day and every day. We give you praise and thanks, for You alone are worthy! In Jesus' Name, Amen.