



"Let each citizen remember at the moment he is offering his vote...that he is executing one of the most solemn trusts in human society for which he is accountable to God and his country." ~

**Samuel Adams,
Founding Father,
United States of
America.**



Dear Veterans

Those of us who have not served will never fully understand the sacrifices you've made both in times of peace and war.

We will never fully understand what you were required to do or how you were able to do it.

We will never fully understand the depth of your scars.

But what we can offer you is this:

We see you.

We recognize your humanity.

And we send you Love that is gentle, patient and healing.

With Blessings and Gratitude, we ask that you remember you are loved.

Thank You.

"I am so thankful that I have a joy that the world cannot rob me of; I have a treasure that the world cannot take from me; I have something that it is not in the power of man or devil to deprive me of, and that is the joy of the Lord." – D.L. Moody



Thanksgiving Prayer

From the DL MOODY Center

Lord, as I participate in the all-too-consuming activities that require my attention today, I pray that I would not lose sight of You.

Give me this day a heart of gratitude.

Give me a heart of gratitude which looks beyond my appreciation

for things,

for comfort,

for peace,

for prosperity.

Give me a heart of gratitude which is ever and always thankful for the Giver

thankful for the One who has provided

thankful for the One who, unlike His gifts, will never fade away.

Give me a heart of gratitude which refuses

to surrender to frivolous complaint,

to seek more than you have given,

to succumb to the annoyances and frustrations of this world.

Give me a heart of gratitude which is so filled with thanksgiving that worry and concern have no room.

Give me a heart of gratitude which remembers you as the present Giver who is my refuge and my portion.

Give me a heart of gratitude which cries out thanksgiving and praise even in the midst of anguish, pain, and frustration.

Give me a heart of gratitude which is capable of love, hope, and peace despite the tensions, hurts, and foolishness of this world.

Give me a heart of gratitude which is ever and always Yours. Amen.

History of Thanksgiving in America

The tradition of Thanksgiving started with the [Pilgrims](#) who settled at Plymouth, Massachusetts. They first held a celebration of their harvest in 1621. The feast was organized by [Governor William Bradford](#) who also invited the local Wampanoag Indians to join in the meal. The first time they called the feast "Thanksgiving" was in 1623, after rain had ended a long drought and they wanted to thank God for His blessings and bountifulness.

The first national Thanksgiving Day was proclaimed by [President George Washington](#) in 1789. However, it did not become a regular holiday in the United States until 1863 when [Abraham Lincoln](#) declared that the last Thursday in November should be celebrated as Thanksgiving. Since then it has been celebrated every year in the United States. The day was made an official federal holiday and moved to the fourth Thursday of November in 1941 by President Franklin Roosevelt.

Fun Facts About Thanksgiving

- Each year a live turkey is presented to the [President of the United States](#) who then "pardons" the turkey and it gets to live out its life on a farm.
- Around 46 million turkeys were eaten in the US on Thanksgiving in 2010. That's around one fifth of all the turkeys eaten for the entire year.
- [Benjamin Franklin](#) wanted the turkey to be the national bird instead of the bald eagle.
- Around 88 percent of Americans eat turkey on Thanksgiving.
- The Pilgrims sailed to America from Great Britain on a ship called the Mayflower.
- The day after Thanksgiving is called Black Friday. It is the biggest shopping day of the year.



Harvest

**The year has turned its circle,
The seasons come and go.
The harvest is all gathered in
And chilly north winds blow
Orchards have shared their treasures,
The fields, their yellow grain,
So open wide the doorway.
Thanksgiving comes again!**