

WELCOME TO THE WELL - Whether you're just visiting or looking to stay, it is great to have you with us. During your time here please swing by the Connection table to pick up a gift, a message by Fr. Anthony and information about STSA and how to get connected into the church community.

KIDZ AT THE WELL - Our aim is to make this time the best hour of your child's week and the most helpful hour of yours. We invite you to visit our kids programs (18 months through high school) on the third floor to find out more. Check in for children 18 months – 5th grade is located next to the coffee tables.

THE THIRD FLOOR – TODAY! Jr. high and high school students will enjoy lunch together and hear from Steve Messeh, from the Hope Association who will be talking to the group about service and linking us with service projects to do during this holiday season and hopefully beyond.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

NEW TO ORTHODOXY? Stop by the connection table and ask for our "What is the Orthodox Church" CD, a message from Fr. Anthony.

THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON – Everyone is invited to our Thanksgiving potluck luncheon on December 1st right after the liturgy. A potluck sign-up is at the connection table!

BAPTISM SATURDAY- All are invited to join us on November 16th at 8am at St. Mark's, 11911 Braddock Rd. Fairfax, VA 22030, for Bracie's baptism!

LEISURE GROUPS: Sign up to attend these activities at the Connection table or on mySTSA.com

Pizza & a Movie at the Hanna's – Watching Evan Almighty! - Fri, November 15, 6:30pm – 9:30pm at The Hanna's Home in Fairfax Station

DATE CHANGE!! Line Dancing Class (with \$5 cover charge) - Tuesday, November 19, 7:30-9:00pm at Fast Eddie's, 14114 Lee Highway Centreville, VA 20120

CONNECTION WITH US ONLINE:

THE WELL- theWellatSTSA.com

TWITTER - twitter.com/stsachurch

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/stsachurch

THANKSGIVING PRAYER



Prayer is not an act we do, but rather it is our home – the place we meet God. In order to have intimacy in that home, we must make sure that it is built properly.

November 10, 2013

Part 6

“In the school of thanksgiving & praise, the soul learns why the approach to every other goal has left it restless.”

“Prayer is the human response to the love God pours upon every soul.”

“Praise the Lord! Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. Who can utter the mighty acts of the Lord? Who can declare all His praise?” Psalm 106:1-2

“I will give You thanks in the great assembly; I will praise You among many people.” Psalm 35:18

“Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.” Psalm 100:4

IMPORTANCE OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

1) IT IS THE Expression of our faith

“Then his wife said to him, “Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!” But he said to her, “You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?” In all this Job did not sin with his lips.” Job 2:9-10

See also Acts 16:22-34

2) IT BRINGS Joy OUT OF Pain

“Sing, O barren, you who have not borne! Break forth into singing, and cry aloud, you who have not labored with child! For more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married woman,” says the Lord.” Isaiah 54:1

Stop telling God how big problems are.
Start telling your problems how big your God is!

3) IT Pleases THE OF Heart of the father

So Jesus answered and said, “Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?” Luke 17:17-18

“If we could only see the heart of the Father, thanksgiving and praise would never leave our lips.”

GETTING STARTED

A) START Small

B) USE Psalms

C) SING Songs

“speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,” Ephesians 5:20

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

DIY – Do It Yourself Project #6

List five things each day that you are thankful to God for. Think of both the gifts He gives (thanksgiving) and who He is (praise). Take time to sincerely thank God and praise Him for your list. Each day come up with five new items to be thankful for.