

Unit Two: God & Me Together

Thanksgiving



We Speak to God

Dear Father in heaven, we give thanks to you for all that you have given us and especially for your Son, Jesus Christ. Thanksgiving Day is a special Day of thanks, but help us to live every day in thankfulness! +Hanoon Hor yev Vortvo yev Hokvooyv Srpo. Amen.

Let's Talk

You get up in the morning to get ready for school. You eat breakfast, grab your lunch and off you go to wait for the school bus. Or perhaps a parent drives you to school or you walk with friends.

When you wake up, do you remember to thank God for all he has given you?

What could you thank him for?





Listen to This

In 1620, a group of people made a very long journey from England to Plymouth, Massachusetts on a boat called the Mayflower. They left England because they wanted to worship God

in their own way. One hundred and one men, women and children made a sixty-six day journey to a new world. It was winter when they arrived. So they decided to spend the winter on board the ship.

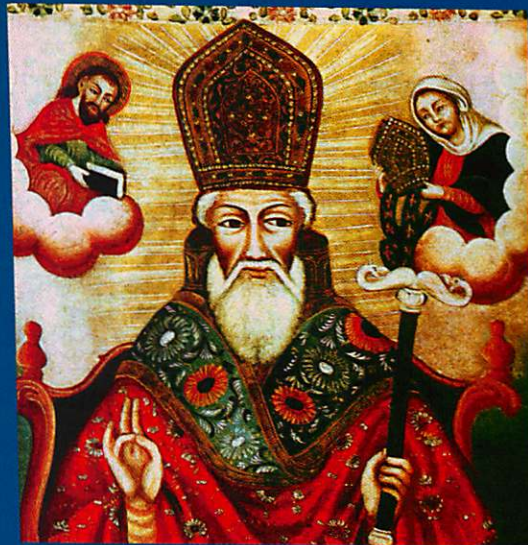
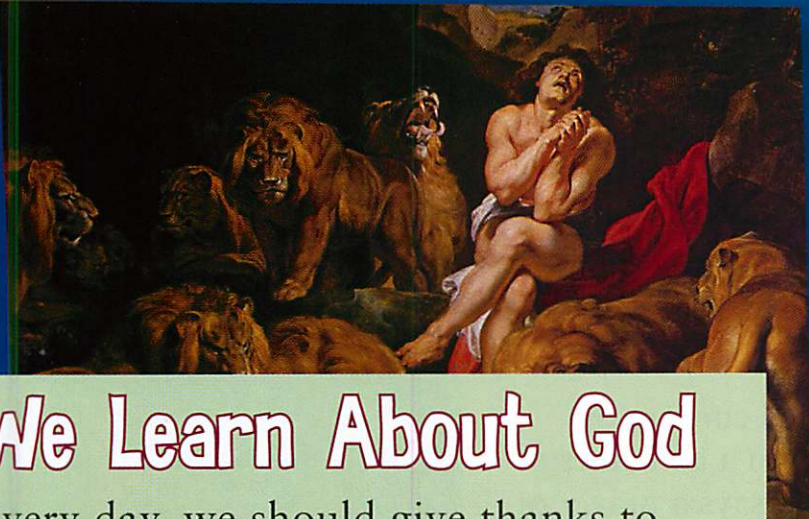
In the spring, they left the boat to begin planting seeds. A Native American named Squanto came into Plymouth one day. He saw that the Pilgrims needed his help. He taught them how to fish and how to plant. He helped them to explore the land.

When the Pilgrims harvested their crops, they celebrated along with Squanto and other Native Americans. They gave thanks, feasted and played games. The Pilgrims called it the Harvest Feast. Later the name of the feast was changed to the holiday we know as Thanksgiving.

God Speaks to Us

“You were chosen to live together in peace. So let the peace that comes from Christ be with you always. Let the message about Christ completely fill your lives, while you use all your wisdom to teach and instruct each other. With thankful hearts, sing psalms and hymns to God. Whatever you say or do should be done in the name of the Lord Jesus, as you give thanks to God the Father.”

Colossians 3:15-17



We Learn About God

Every day, we should give thanks to God for all the things he has given us. Who said thank you to God? Can you guess?

- 1 Thank you, God, for keeping my family safe during the flood.
- 2 Thank you, God, for rescuing me from the lions' den.
- 3 Thank you, God, for letting me give birth to Jesus, the Savior of world.
- 4 Thank you, God, for helping me bring the teachings of Jesus to Armenia.
- 5 Thank you, God, for letting Simeon and me see the baby Jesus in the temple.

Answers to choose from: St. Gregory, Daniel, Noah, Anna, Mary



Hearts and Hands

We thank you God
 Kohanamk uzken
 Քոհնաւուսմբ զքէն



Our Armenian Way

During the Badarak or Eucharist (which means “thanksgiving”), the congregation expresses their thanks to God through songs and prayer. We especially thank God for sending his Son, Jesus Christ, who gave us a new way of living so that we could grow closer to God.

After Holy Communion, behind the closed curtain, the priest puts some extra Holy Communion in a container to take to the sick. He cleans the chalice and says a prayer of thanks to the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit.

Kohanamk uzken, Hayr Amenagal. We thank you, Father Almighty, for our holy church. Alleluia.

Kohanamk uzken, Kreesdos Takavor. We thank you, Christ our King, for your mercy and forgiveness. Alleluia.

Kohanamk uzken, Hokeet Jushmareed. We thank you, Spirit of Truth. Keep our Holy Church safe forevermore. Alleluia.

While the priest recites this prayer of thanksgiving, the choir sings the Hymn of Thanksgiving.



For My Family



Sharing Our Faith

Live in peace and with thankful hearts, sing psalms and hymns to God. (Colossians 3:15-17)

Today, the children learned about giving thanks to God for sending his son Jesus to teach us about mercy and forgiveness. They also learned about the Thanksgiving celebrated by the Pilgrims and shared with the Native Americans. As class ended, we made a poster of all the people and things we are thankful for.

Living Our Faith

1. Design “thank you” stationery.
2. Help your child write a note of thanks to a member of your church family, e.g. parish priest, parish council chair, choirmaster, organist, deacon, Sunday School superintendent.