

# 1010

*for*

## OPEN MINDS

*Proportionate Giving*



JANUARY 25, 2026 ✕ 8:00 AM + 10:15 AM

## A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

We're thrilled that you are here and we want you to feel at home.

- \* Restrooms are near the door that you came in today.
- \* The service is printed in this worship folder. Join in as you're comfortable. Ask anyone if you're lost - they'll be glad to help!
- \* We're glad you brought your kids! We know and Jesus knows that little kids have a hard time sitting quietly sometimes. They are still welcome here. Jesus said: Let the little children come to me! If your little one is restless, feel free to spend a minute in the entryway, you should still be able to hear through speakers.
- \* If you could use some hearing assistance, please ask the usher in the entryway, we have headsets available.

Please introduce yourself to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil. They would love to meet you and serve you however they can!

## SOMETHING A LITTLE DIFFERENT TODAY: BIBLE STUDY IN SERVICE

The end of the service today and for the next two Sundays will be a little different than usual. We'll spend about 15 minutes with a short Bible study. Feel free to take notes, raise your hand to answer a question, or just listen. The goal of these short Bible studies is to think through some of the many parts of the Bible that encourage faithful stewardship.

## A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Dear Father, you have given me so much more than I can ever return to you. Give me the wisdom I need to respond to your love thoughtfully. Strengthen my will to dedicate all that I am and have to your glory thankfully. I ask this in the name of the One who lived and died for me, Jesus Christ, your Son, my Lord. Amen.



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## **10 for 10 : OPEN MINDS (Proportionate Giving)**

Today is the second Sunday of a three-week stewardship emphasis. The word stewardship is often seen as a dirty word—a gimmick to get people to dig deeper and “give ’til it hurts.” Nothing could be further from the truth! Instead, stewardship is a precious word that sums up the Christian life. It encourages us to be who we truly are in Christ: Precious people who have been richly blessed by a Father who knows how to give good gifts to his children!

Christians face a daily struggle. We have two paths set before us. The New Man, created within us at baptism, wants to live for Christ and the life that is to come. But our sinful nature focuses us on this life. That struggle pulls us in two directions when it comes to how we set our priorities or use our time. The struggle is especially noticeable when we wrestle with how to use the financial resources God has given us.

Americans are generally shy when it comes to talking about money. The Lord isn't. He speaks to us about worldly wealth and possessions over 2,300 times in his Word.

Today we ask the Lord to open our minds to consider the magnitude of his blessings. Each of us has been blessed in different ways and at various levels. What should our thoughtful, prayerful response be to these blessings? That's where the Bible's teaching about proportionate giving is such a help. For some families with fewer resources, the practice of giving 10% of their income might be a significant leap of faith. For other families with more resources, the practice of giving 10% may be a starting point for faith-filled giving.

St. Paul wrote to the Christians in Corinth, “On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made” (1 Corinthians 16:2). Christians are blessed as they put God's principles of proportional giving into practice!

In this worship series we'll follow this path:



### **Week One: OPEN MINDS (Proportionate Giving)**

Week Two: OPEN HEARTS (Firstfruits Giving)

Week Three: OPEN HANDS (Sacrificial Giving)

# THE DIVINE SERVICE

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 *The congregation speaks and sings the words in **BOLD** type.* 

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## OPENING HYMN 748 Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly

*Please stand*

### INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### VERSES OF PRAISE

*Job 41:11; James 1:17; Psalm 24:1; Deuteronomy 8:17,18; 1 Chronicles 16:34*

“Everything under heaven belongs to me,” declares Lord.

**Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father.**

You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.”

**But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.**

The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.**

### OUR CONFESSION OF SIN

Lord God, heavenly Father, we humbly come before you today knowing that we have failed to speak lovingly, think purely, or act rightly. We have sinned against you and against others...

...in wasting the precious time you give us.

**...in our slowness and hesitancy to spread your Gospel.**

...in the faithful care of our relationships.

**...in our restless and relentless preoccupation with worldly wealth.**

...in caring for the bodies and minds you have given us.

**...in our refusal to make you our first priority.**

*Silence for personal reflection*

### OUR LORD’S FORGIVENESS

Hear the Word of the Lord:

Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. *(Isaiah 1:18)*

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *(1 Timothy 1:15)*

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to  
God the Cre - a - tor tri - um-phantly raise, who fash-ioned and  
made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who still guides us  
on to the end of our days. God's ban - ners are o'er us; his  
light goes be - fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin-ing forth in the  
night, till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is  
ban-ished, as for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature. Make us always thankful for your loving care; and grant that we, remembering the richness of your grace, may be faithful stewards of all your good gifts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Be seated.*

## FIRST READING

### 1 Corinthians 16:1-4

*The Bible calls for offerings that are "in keeping with your income," that is, proportionate. These offerings are given so that God's people might be a blessing to others, meeting physical and eternal needs.*

**N**ow about the collection for the Lord's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have

to be made. Then, when I arrive, I will give letters of introduction to the men you approve and send them with your gift to Jerusalem. If it seems advisable for me to go also, they will accompany me.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 100

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

**Worship the Lord with gladness;  
come before him with joyful songs.**

Know that the Lord is God.

**It is he who made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, the sheep of his  
pasture.**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise;

*Please stand*

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

*Through a parable Jesus teaches us that we are to manage all that the Master gives to us for his glory.*

**A**gain, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

"After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.'

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

**give thanks to him and praise his name.**

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;

**his faithfulness continues through all  
generations.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will  
be forever. Amen.**

## Matthew 25:14-30

"The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.'

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

"Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

"His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.'

" 'So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. For

whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where

there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to You, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY 754 Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness**

### **SERMON 1 Corinthians 16 What if you have enough?!?**

*Please stand*

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Lord of heaven and earth, you made all things beautiful. You have provided green forests and refreshing streams. You have arranged the orderly procession of day and night for our work and rest.

**Thank you for the mountains and the prairies, the roaring sea, and the gentle breeze.**

Thank you for roofs that shelter us, for clothing that protects us, and for food and drink. Thank you for our work and the income it provides.

**Thank you for our cities and our countrysides, for farms and factories, for streets and highways, and for all of life that flows so swiftly before us.**

We know that it is from your hand that we have received all we have and are and will be. We understand that you call us to be the stewards of your abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us.

**Help us always to use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Christ in our lives.**

*Special intercessions may be inserted here.*

Help us, Lord, to be wise and fruitful stewards of the opportunities that you give us to use our gifts.

**Amen.**

## **OFFERING**



*Moved by God's love in Christ, we return to God our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to Him.*

*There is an offering plate in the entry way for those who wish to give in that way.*

*To donate online, either scan the QR code on the left or text **princeofpeace** (no spaces) to **(833) 693-7056**. You'll receive a link in response. Follow the link to the Prince of Peace secure giving page.*

**A NOTE TO OUR GUESTS** *Children and those who are not communicant members of our church may come forward for a blessing. Those who do are asked to cross their arms on their chest to indicate this.*

Prince of Peace practices closed communion, because the Bible teaches it and because we love you. That means we ask that only members of Prince of Peace or other congregations in our fellowship take the Lord's Supper this morning. This is not a judgment of anyone's faith, it is simply our desire to uphold what God says in 1 Corinthians 10 and 11 about who should receive Holy Communion and how. Because we believe from these words that Jesus' body and blood is really present in and with the bread and wine, we want to be sure that it is received in the manner He has commanded us.

Please speak to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil about communing with us in the future if you're not part of our congregation. **Thank you for your understanding!**

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## THE SACRAMENT

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*Stand*

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All glory and splendor, thanks and praise are yours, O Lord, our Father.

You pierced the gloomy darkness of sin and unbelief with the brilliant light of your Son.

You guided the Magi to worship the Christ and revealed the mystery of your eternal plan to save both Jew and Gentile.

You declared Jesus your beloved Son at the Jordan River and, with your Spirit, you anointed him to be the Savior of all people.

Bless our reception of your Son's body and blood that we may shine with the joy of faith. Use this holy sacrament to illuminate

our lives and minds with Christ's forgiveness, peace, and comfort. Refresh our faith, and help us to reflect his truth and grace to the world.

**Amen.**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD JESUS

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ☩ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my ☩ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

### O LAMB OF GOD





*Be seated*

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

**HYMN 662 Draw Near**

**HYMN 717 What Is the World to Me**

*Remain seated*

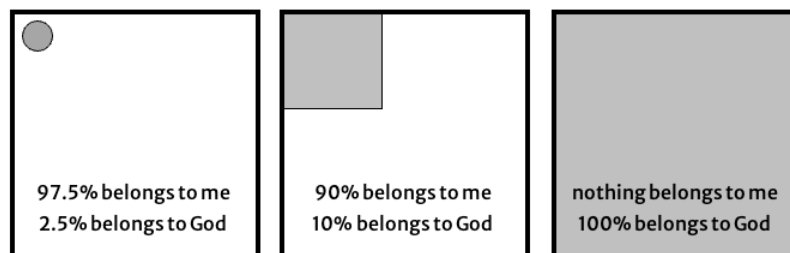
## PRAYER

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## BIBLE STUDY: PROPORTIONATE GIVING

Which of these diagrams do you think most accurately reflects the Bible's teaching on money, possessions, and our use of them?



**Genesis 1:1**

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

**John 1:3**

*Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.*

**Job 33:4**

*The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life.*

**Job 41:11**

*The Lord said, "Who has a claim against me that I must pay? Everything under heaven belongs to me."*

**Exodus 19:6**

*The Lord said, "...the whole earth is mine."*

## BY NATURE, WE RESENT GOD'S OWNERSHIP

We need to constantly guard our hearts and minds, remembering God created all things, and therefore owns all things. Anything we have—our life, our intellect, our time, our possessions—we have because he generously gave them to us.

**James 1:17**

*Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father.*

Proportionate giving begins by recognizing who really is the \_\_\_\_\_.

### Point / Counter-Point

Below are some examples of a sinful heart and God's responses.

**Man says:** *"I put in my time."*

**God says:** *"Now listen, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.' Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes" (James 4:13-14).*

**Man says:** *"It's my brain and talent that are responsible for my success."*

**God says:** *"I have filled him (Bezalel) with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts—to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood" (Exodus 31:3-5).*

**Man says:** *"I've worked hard for what I've got!"*

**God says:** *"You may say to yourself, 'My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.' But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth" (Deuteronomy 8:17-18).*

## The Takeaway

- a) If I don't recognize God's complete ownership, I need to \_\_\_\_\_ of my idolatry.
- b) If I do recognize God's complete ownership, as his forgiven child I give to him \_\_\_\_\_.
- c) If my life's focus is on earthly possessions, every day I live is a day I come closer to losing \_\_\_\_\_.
- d) If my life's focus is on heaven, then every day I live is a day I come closer to \_\_\_\_\_ everything.

## IV. QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS

So, our New Man wants to honor Christ through percentage giving. That New Man now wrestles with the following questions.

**“What percentage should I give?”** Turn the table on legalism!

- Abraham gladly gave \_\_\_\_\_%, a “tithe” (Genesis 14:20)
- Old Testament law \_\_\_\_\_ people to give multiple tithes (Numbers 18:21-23; Deuteronomy 14:22-29)
- Zacchaeus freely gave \_\_\_\_\_% (Luke 19:1-10)
- The widow at the temple gave \_\_\_\_\_% (1 Kings 17:7-16; Luke 21:1-4)

The point? Let the percentage of your gifts flow from the Spirit's work in your heart.

*“Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:7).*

**“How much of God's money do I need to live on?”** Turn the table on greed!

- ? Consider these two examples. There is a single mom with two children who made \$30,000 last year. She gave \$2,500 in offerings. There is a two-income family with two children who made \$110,000 last year and gave \$11,000. Who gave more?

The point? God is so generous, he often gives us so much income that we can not only meet our needs but also purchase some things we want, but don't really need. However, if we better distinguish between wants and needs... if we focus on *earthly* needs and *heavenly* wants... it frees us up to be exceedingly generous with our offerings.

**“What will my investments be earning 50,000 years from now?”** Turn the table on materialism!

### Matthew 6:21

*Jesus said, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*

### Martin Luther

*I have held many things in my hands and I have lost them all. But whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess.*

- ? How might you enjoy your offerings 50,000 years from now?

The point? Even Jesus had a treasurer. Ministry requires funding. But investing in gospel ministry can reap blessings that we will enjoy for all eternity.

**“Do I fully comprehend Jesus’ sacrifice for me?”** Turn the table on self-centeredness!

### **2 Corinthians 8:9**

*For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.*

Think of a) how big of a step down Jesus took and b) why he was willing to take that step.

The point? Giving generously will never be achieved by focusing only on the Scripture passages which talk about generous giving! The gospel—the good news of Christ’s sacrifice, resurrection and the glorious eternity that is waiting for us—is what the Spirit uses to empower joyful, generous giving.

## **NOTES**

- Study the information in your *10 for 10* commitment packet. Please read the letter, use the planning tools included, and prayerfully consider what your response will be.
- Four weeks from today is when commitment cards will be gathered. Important note: **your commitment cards will not be opened**. They will be placed near the altar for ten weeks and then returned to you unopened for your prayerful reflection.
- Please do not place offerings in your *10 for 10* commitment envelopes. The only thing that goes in that envelope is your giving plan.
- Additional devotional material will be shared. Read. Ponder. Pray. God bless you in this!

## **BLESSING**

*Numbers 6:24-26*

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## **CLOSING HYMN 617 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav’nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**



*We thank the Lord for our accompanist, Alison Wiedmann, and for her gifts used to serve us and our Savior this morning!*