

## Bible Reading for November 22

**2 Corinthians 9:6-14** The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

### Discussion Questions

• *What gifts have you received from God lately? When you think about your possessions, is it easy to think about giving some away? How do you feel about the idea of "always having enough of everything" that Paul mentions? What helps you to understand when you have enough of something?*

As you ponder these things in preparation for Sunday, I would love to hear what God is saying to you. Call me in the church office at 256-353-6941 or email me at [miriam@centralunitedmethodist.com](mailto:miriam@centralunitedmethodist.com).



Love GOD



Love OTHERS



SERVE the World



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# GIFTS

November 15, 2020

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Musical Gift

*O Worship the King*

arr. Raney

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

*Shine, Jesus, Shine*

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Prayers of the People

Rev. Miriam Smith

**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 for ever. Amen.**

Stewardship Testimony

Johnny Woller

Anthem

*Give It Away*

arr. Camp Kirkland

Bible Reading — Matthew 25:14-30

Rev. Miriam Smith

—[Prayer]

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed,  
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have

nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

—  
The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Message — “Gifts”

Rev. Miriam Smith

Choral Benediction

*On Eagle’s Wings*

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**And God will raise you up on eagle’s wings,  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of God’s hand.**

Musical Gift

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

arr. Berry

Instrumentalists: Virginia Paul, Michael Poovey, Stacy Mullican, Garrison Sickles  
Singers: Beth Green, Alicia Nails, Alicia Mullican, Susan Thompson, Patsy Siek,  
Chuck Thompson, Douglas Maze, Ron Woller

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† *Shine, Jesus, Shine* by Graham Kendrick © 1987 Make Way Music. *On Eagle’s Wings* © 1979 North American Liturgy Resources. *Give It Away* by Gloria & Benjamin Gaither, arr. Camp Kirkland © 2006 Gaither Music Company. CCLI # 2306531

## Welcome!

We are so happy to be here together! Here are a few guidelines for how we can worship safely together:

Please stay seated until the ushers come to guide you out of the Sanctuary. If you would like to make your offering while you are here today, there is an offering plate by the door. You may also continue to give using our website or by mailing a check.

In order to help keep everyone safe, please take your bulletins and any trash with you when you leave.

This service will be livestreamed on YouTube and a recording will be posted on social media for watching at a later time.