

Using Wealth Wisely

Week 1 – Earning Money
Week 2 – Spending Money
Week 3 – Giving Money

22nd Sunday After Pentecost
October 24, 2021 – 11:00 AM

AS WE GATHER

Too often we believe money gives **security** and **satisfaction** and that it will make us feel like we are **somebody**. Yet only the LORD—the great “I AM”—provides these for us in absolute and eternal ways. That’s why we honor him with our wealth, with the first fruits of our income.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE SING

"You Are I AM"

Darrell Evans

GOD’S GIFTS

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. (Romans 6:23b, Ephesians 2:8-9)

C: What, then, shall we say in response to God’s great gifts in Christ? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all – how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things? (Romans 8:31-32)

P: Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children, and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.” (Romans 8:31-32)

WE SING

"Use Me Here"

Darin Watters & Tim Brinkman

WE PRAY

PROCLAIMING THE GOODNESS OF THE GIVER

(1st Article of the Apostles’ Creed)

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

What does this mean?

I believe God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, animals, and all that I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

God defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

FIRST READING

Proverbs 22:1-9

¹A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.

²Rich and poor have this in common: The LORD is the Maker of them all.

³The prudent man sees danger and takes refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer for it.

⁴Humility and the fear of the LORD; bring wealth and honor and life.

⁵In the paths of the wicked lie thorns and snares, but he who guards his soul stays far from them.

⁶Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.

⁷The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.

⁸He who sows wickedness reaps trouble, and the rod of his fury will be destroyed.

⁹The generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.

EPISTLE READING

1 Timothy 6:17-19

¹⁷Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 12:41-44

⁴¹Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. ⁴²But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny.

⁴³Calling His disciples to Him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. ⁴⁴They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything – all she had to live on."

KIDS' TIME

DCE Liz Peters

MESSAGE

"First Fruits"

Pastor Doug Slavens

(Proverbs 3:9 "Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops.")

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

P: In today's second reading Paul writes to Timothy, "Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God." (1 Timothy 6:17)

P: We confess our sins to our heavenly Father:

C: Dear Lord God, You are the Creator of all things. You are the Giver of all blessings. Forgive us for when we've been short-sighted in determining how to use these blessings. Forgive us for when we've sought after matters of this world while neglecting to seek the concerns of Your Kingdom. Forgive us for when we've disregarded the daily concerns and the eternal well-being of others that our lives touch each day. Forgive our sins, Heavenly Father. Give us new life. Refresh us and encourage us in Your Word that our living will be shaped by Your selfless love for us. We pray through Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

Silent time for personal reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS FROM GOD

We Celebrate Our Lord’s Supper

WORDS OF PREPARATION & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF OUR LORD’S BODY AND BLOOD

WE SING	<i>"I Give You My Heart"</i>	<i>Reuben Morgan</i>
	<i>"Way Maker"</i>	<i>Leeland</i>

COMMUNION BLESSING

WE PRAY

LORD’S PRAYER

WE GATHER OUR GIFTS – *Being content in God’s provision opens the door for joy and generosity in our giving.*

WE SING	<i>"Rooftops"</i>	<i>Ben Williams/Jonathan Berlin/Lindsey Sweat</i>
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CLOSING BLESSING