

God's generosity

2 Corinthians 9:6–15

Scripture Text

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!

Service Outline

Gathering

Psalm of Praise

Psalm 98:1–6

*O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.
The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.*

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.*

Call to Worship

Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

God's Greeting

Hymns of Praise

"The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing"

"Ten Thousand Reasons"

Confession

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

"Perdón, Señor/Forgive Us, Lord"

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 62:5–7

For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.

He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

Anthem

"The Heartbeat of God"

Far beyond grief and anguish where the strong confront the cost of their fears,
far beyond bitter trembling where the thirsting drink the salt of their tears,
there's no silence, no forgetting: there's the heartbeat of God.

Refrain:

A heartbeat, sure and steady, that breaks into a voice—

the voice that brings all people a word of love and joy.

Is the cosmos in silence? No: there's the heartbeat of God.

Far beyond erring neighbors who like Cain go babbling, sleepless and lost,
far beyond urgent seeking, straining toward the sun, not counting the cost,
there's no silence, no forgetting: there's the heartbeat of God. *Refrain.*

Far beyond hurt and suff'ring of a body pierced by pain with its thorns,
far beyond tender kindness of a life that death from loved ones has torn,
There's no silence, no forgetting: there's the heartbeat of God. *Refrain.*

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Proclamation of the Word

Anthem

Psalm 34: "Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord"

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

2 Corinthians 9:6–15

Sermon

The Genealogy of Generosity

Profession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

The Lord's Supper

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

*All who are truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior,
and who desire to live in obedience to him, are now invited to come with gladness to the table of the Lord.*

*Please take a piece of bread, dip it into the juice, and partake of them together.
There will be gluten-free stations by the main doors on either side of the auditorium,
on either side of the balcony, and on the stage.*

During the distribution we will listen to and sing from the following songs:

Choral Anthem: "Abana in Heaven" (Arabic Lord's Prayer)

"Lift Up Your Hearts unto the Lord"

"I Know It Was the Blood"

"God is So Good"

Response of Prayer and Dedication

Prayers of the People

Sending

Blessing

Participants:

Denise Kingdom Grier, preacher

Todd Cioffi, liturgist

Maple Avenue Ministries, host church

Conference Choir, directed by Jorge Lockward, James Abbington, and C. Michael Hawn

Graham Kendrik, guitarist

CJ Grier, Jorge Lockward, and James Abbington, pianists