

MUMC At-Home Worship:

October 18, 2020

We're continuing with our series on generosity this week with a unique take – we're looking at thankfulness as a core part of generosity! As you follow the worship service, I invite you to consider how recognizing our blessings can prepare our hearts to be generous. If you'd like, you might enjoy keeping a "blessing book" this week where you mark down the blessings you experience. It can be a great chance to see how deeply God blesses us, often when we're not looking.

Have a wonderful week!

-Pastor Dillon

If available, place a candle in the center of your gathering space and light it with this prayer:

Generous God, who has blessed us beyond our knowing: teach us to find the blessings hidden among the wearied fault lines of our living so we might return your generosity in cries of thanksgiving. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Hymn: *For the Beauty of the Earth*, United Methodist Hymnal #92 – [watch/listen here](#)

New Testament Reading: Luke 17:11-19

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Reflect:

1. This story has a curious sense of cause and effect – Jesus has the lepers go to the priests but they are made clean before they get there (“on the way” in some translations, “as they left” in others); the thankful one who returns to Jesus is told that his faith has healed him but there is no word about how or if the others were healed. Do you imagine there is a particular or special healing that is given to the thankful one? Have you ever found healing in the act of giving thanks?
2. Luke points out that the man who returns to give thanks is a Samaritan, like the famed character in the “Good Samaritan” parable, and a people thought of by the Jews as being the “other” and outside the faith. What might it mean, then, that the Samaritan is the one to return? How might we learn thankfulness from those who are counted outside our circles and churches?
3. How might we spend the coming week counting our blessings and giving thanks? What are some ways we could take the blessings we have and share them with one another?

Hymn: *Count Your Blessings* – [watch/listen here](#)

Prayer Requests: Share prayer requests and have a moment of silent prayer

Lord's Prayer

Hymn: *Marching to Zion*, United Methodist Hymnal #733 – [watch/listen here](#)

Closing Prayer:

Almighty God, may we go to live generously with all of what we have and all of who we are.
Amen. (*Blow out the candle*)

For the Beauty of the Earth
United Methodist Hymnal #92

1. For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies;

Refrain: Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

2. For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light;

(Refrain)

3. For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight;

(Refrain)

4. For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild;

(Refrain)

5. For thy church, that evermore
lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore
her pure sacrifice of love;

(Refrain)

6. For thyself, best Gift Divine,
to the world so freely given,
for that great, great love of thine,
peace on earth, and joy in heaven:

(Refrain)

"For the Beauty of the Earth" words are by Folliot S. Pierpoint, 1864, and are in the public domain.

Luke 17:11-19 (CEB)

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten men with skin diseases approached him. Keeping their distance from him, they raised their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, show us mercy!"

When Jesus saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." As they left, they were cleansed. One of them, when he saw that he had been healed, returned and praised God with a loud voice. He fell on his face at Jesus' feet and thanked him. He was a Samaritan. Jesus replied, "Weren't ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? No one returned to praise God except this foreigner?" Then Jesus said to him, "Get up and go. Your faith has healed you."

Scripture quotations noted CEB are taken from the Common English Bible, copyright 2011. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Count Your Blessings

1. When upon life's billows you are tempest-tossed,
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings,
name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

Refrain:

Count your blessings, name them one by one,
Count your blessings, see what God hath done!
Count your blessings, name them one by one,
Count your many blessings,
see what God hath done.

2. Are you ever burdened with a load of care?
Does the cross seem heavy
you are called to bear?
Count your many blessings, every doubt will fly,
And you will keep singing as the days go by.
(Refrain)
3. When you look at others
with their lands and gold,
Think that Christ has promised you
His wealth untold;
Count your many blessings—money cannot buy
Your reward in heaven, nor your home on high.
(Refrain)
4. So, amid the conflict whether great or small,
Do not be discouraged, God is over all;
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,
Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.
(Refrain)

*"Count Your Blessings" words are by Johnson Oatman, 1897,
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Marching to Zion

United Methodist Hymnal #733

1. Come, we that love the Lord,
and let our joys be known;
join in a song with sweet accord,
join in a song with sweet accord
and thus surround the throne,
and thus surround the throne.

Refrain:

We're marching to Zion,
beautiful, beautiful Zion;
we're marching upward to Zion,
the beautiful city of God.

2. Let those refuse to sing
who never knew our God;
but children of the heavenly King,
but children of the heavenly King
may speak their joys abroad,
may speak their joys abroad.
(Refrain)
3. The hill of Zion yields
a thousand sacred sweets
before we reach the heavenly fields,
before we reach the heavenly fields,
or walk the golden streets,
or walk the golden streets.
(Refrain)
4. Then let our songs abound,
and every tear be dry;
we're marching through Emmanuel's ground,
we're marching through Emmanuel's ground,
to fairer worlds on high,
to fairer worlds on high.
(Refrain)

*"Marching to Zion" stanzas are by Isaac Watts, 1707, refrain
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