

SERMON

The Sacrifice of Our Giving
series: Living Sacrifices for Jesus
Rev. Thomas E. Nicholas

***WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

HYMN OF RESPONSE 434 (vss. 1, 2 & 4)

Lord, Thou Lov'st the Cheerful Giver

*WORDS OF PEACE

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN FOR CHILDREN'S SPRING BREAK BREAKFAST
(for children 3 years through 5th grade during the Sunday school hour)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

SERMON NOTES:

PRELUDE

◇ A time of quiet preparation *Morning Prayer/ D. Wolford*
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah/ arr. T. Martin

WORDS OF GREETING

WE APPROACH GOD

IN WORD

Psalm 96: 4-9 (NIV)

Leader: Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;
he is to be feared above all gods.

**People: For all the gods of the nations are idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.**

Leader: Splendor and majesty are before him;
strength and glory are in his sanctuary.

**People: Ascribe to the LORD, O families of nations,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.**

Leader: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering and come into his courts.

**People: Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth.**

IN PRAYER

***WE PRAISE OUR GOD**

HYMN OF PRAISE 100

Holy, Holy, Holy!

WE CONFESS OUR FAITH

from II Corinthians 8 & 9

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

People: Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Leader: Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,
and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

**People: Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give,
not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful
giver.**

Leader: And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

People: **You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.**

Leader: Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.

People: **Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!**

*WE EXALT OUR LORD

WORSHIP SONGS

Leader: Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. Ps.73:25-26 (NIV)

MISSION MOMENT

Tim & Barb Yates video

WE GREET ONE ANOTHER

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (4 years old to 1st grade)

WELCOME TO VISITORS

WE SEEK GOD'S FACE

Prayers of God's People

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

OFFERING/ OFFERTORY

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING I Chron. 29:10-18; Luke 20:20-26; Rom.12:5-8 (NIV)

¹⁰David praised the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly, saying,

“Praise be to you, O LORD, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. ¹¹Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.

¹²**Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. ¹³Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name.**

¹⁴“But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand. ¹⁵We are aliens and strangers in your sight, as were all our forefathers. Our days on earth are like a shadow, without hope. ¹⁶O LORD our God, as for all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple for your Holy Name, it comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you. ¹⁷I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these things have I given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you. ¹⁸O LORD, God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep this desire in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you.

²⁰Keeping a close watch on him, they sent spies, who pretended to be honest. They hoped to catch Jesus in something he said so that they might hand him over to the power and authority of the governor. ²¹So the spies questioned him: “Teacher, we know that you speak and teach what is right, and that you do not show partiality but teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. ²²Is it right for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”

²³He saw through their duplicity and said to them, ²⁴“Show me a denarius. Whose portrait and inscription are on it?”

²⁵“Caesar’s,” they replied.

He said to them, “Then give to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.” ²⁶They were unable to trap him in what he had said there in public. And astonished by his answer, they became silent.

⁵So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man’s gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. ⁷If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; ⁸if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.