

God's Gifts

October 11 – 25, 2020

“in every place your faith in God has become known” – 1 Thessalonians 1:8

All that we have and all that we are is from God. Yet we often forget that, acting as if we have brought our own blessings and prosperity upon ourselves. We respond as if others have brought their own despair and need upon themselves. All is God's, but we do not treat it that way. All is God's, and we are called to share all with God's world. We are asked to give of our lives to the work of God. Not just moments, but our whole lives. Not just our worship, but our day to day. Not just a few dollars, but all we have.

October 11 – God at Work in Us

“the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food” – Isaiah 25:6

Philippians 2:1-13; Isaiah 25:1-9

God has laid a rich feast before us. God is with us and provides for us. In God we have enough. Even in the midst of conflict and fear, God's gifts are there for us. We are invited to reflect this love back to God and the world, to give of all that God has given to us.

October 18 – More Than Enough

“in every place your faith in God has become known” – 1 Thessalonians 1:8

Exodus 36:1-7; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

All we have comes from God. We can claim ownership of money and land, but it is first and foremost God's. As imitators of Christ, we are called to remember that and to use God's gifts toward the work that God calls us. Through our faithfulness God will build amazing things. There will be more than enough for all God is doing.

October 25 – Giving for All

“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” – Matthew 22:39

Matthew 22:34-46; Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Whatever we have, whatever we are, it is not just about us. Our lives and actions are always moderated in community. We cannot separate our fate from that of others. We cannot separate what we have from the needs of others. If we are to truly treat others as we wish to be treated, we must use every gift we have received to live out God's call to justice.