

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Quincy, IL  
Rev. Marlin Rempfer

Thanksgiving Eve  
Wednesday, November 26, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

## **“God gives to All, God gives All, God forgives All”**

Psalm 145:15 – 16

What reason do we have to gather here for Thanksgiving? Today we list three reasons: God gives to all; God gives all and God forgives all.

Psalm 145:15 – 16 The eyes of all look to You, and You give them food in due season. You open Your hand; You satisfy the desire of every living thing.

Who is on your Christmas list? Obviously, there are family and friends. Your list besides family and friends may include teachers, your co-workers, your hairdresser, babysitter, coach, neighbor Etc. Where do you draw the line? Maybe there are some people you want to remember but can't afford to. Even if you could give to all, would you? It is comforting to note on that God's Christmas list and God's daily list includes all people. The eyes of all look to God, He opens His hand and satisfies the desire of every living thing.

If we were honest we would have to admit that that is not the way we approach giving. We would give to some and not others. But God gives to all. Matthew says, “He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good and send rain on the just and the unjust.”

God doesn't say, “If you are not good, I won't give you breath. He doesn't say, “If you are not nice, I won't give you sunshine.” He doesn't say, “If you don't pray to Me, I won't give you any food.”

God is a wonderful Giver and it is because he is such a wonderful lover. God reaches out to a woman married five times at a well. He reaches out to ten

lepers. He reaches out to a widow whose only son had died. He reached out to Peter after He had denied Him. He reached out to Zaccheus and to the Tax collector Matthew, to the arrogant and violent Saul. God gives to those who complain about the weather. He gives to those who use His name to curse and to those who deny His existence. He gives to all.

People sometimes ask, "What has God given me lately?" The truth is He has given you everything you are and have? That is why we sing:

(Hymn 785) , "We praise You, O God our Redeemer, Creator. In grateful devotion our tribute we bring. We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You; We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.

God Gives to all and God gives all. 1 Corinthians 4:7 What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?

No matter who you are there is only one answer to the question in Corinthians: What do you have that you did not receive? Why do you act as though you did not?"

Romans 11:36 For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.

What is meant by daily bread? Luther says, "Everything that belongs to the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, good, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors and, the like."

The Old Testament lesson assigned for today from Deuteronomy 8 starts with the words "And you shall remember ..." What it is we are to remember? We are not

to remember just the blessings of God but the One Who gave them. Moses said, "Remember the Lord Your God." Remember all the way which the Lord God has led you. Remember how He brought you out. Remember how He guided you through the wilderness by a cloud by day and fire by night. Remember how He quenched your thirst and gave you manna. Remember how He even prevented your clothes from wearing out.

One of the reasons we come to worship in this sanctuary every week is to be reminded that we do not live by bread alone or by our own power, but there is One from whom and to whom and through Whom we receive all things.

Life changes when I remember that it all belongs to Him. I stop more often and think, I really need to thank God for my body, my life, my friends, my family, my faith my church because they all come from Him. Secondly, I need to take care of these blessings because they really belong to God.

Hymn 894 v. 1 says: For the fruits of His creation, Thanks be to God. For His gifts to every nation, Thanks be to God. For the plowing, sowing, reaping, Silent growth while we are sleeping, Future needs in earth's safe keeping, Thanks be to God."

God gives to all; God gives all and God forgives all. 1 John 1:7 "the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin"

In John 8 we read how the Pharisees and Scribes brought to Jesus a woman caught in adultery. Sometimes our shame is private. There are those sins we do our best to hide from everyone.

At other times our shame is public. It has been in the paper. We are caught in the act. But what does Jesus do? As people stand ready to stone us, He writes in the dirt. He says, "Anyone here who has never sinned can throw the first stone." The young look to the old. The old look into their hearts and they leave first. They all drop their stones.

The woman waits for Jesus' to speak. Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She answers, "No one Lord." Then Jesus says, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more."

God has written a message for us not in the sand but on the cross. He opened His hand and with His blood He wrote two words. "Not Guilty." Jesus wants to take your greatest shame, the dirtiest part of your life and He wants to wash it clean in the blood of the Lamb. That is why He is in the world assuming the role of a servant. He takes on flesh so that all of your sins might be forgiven.

When Jesus says you're forgiven, it's time to let go of the guilt.  
When He says it is all gone. Believe Him - thank Him and sing His praise.

763 v, 2 & 3 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, Let this blest assurance control; That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate And hath shed His own blood for my soul. It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul

He lives – oh the blessing of this glorious thought; My sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more, Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul. It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul

Now Thank we all our God Who gives all, Who gives to all and Who forgives all.  
Amen