

WORSHIP HANDOUT

Sunday August 28th

Series: "What does the Bible say about that?"

Topic: Generosity



OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*Song of Welcome: Open Doors, by Chris McManus

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Creator God, you call us to hospitality;
to give as generously to others as you have given to us.

For there are angels among us.

Loving God, you call us to give you glory
in the compassion we show to one another.

To love without judgment, of ourselves or of others.

We gather as one Body,
seeking to walk in the way you have set for us.

**We gather as one Body,
to worship the one who is Love.**

~ written by Eliza Buchakjian-Tweedy, Pastor at First Church Congregational, Rochester, NH. She blogs at <http://sermonizing.wordpress.com/>

*Opening Hymn: UMH 139 Praise to the Lord

OPENING PRAYER

**Hospitable God, you invite us to a banquet
where the last may be first,
and the humble and the mighty trade places.**

**Let us share your abundance with no fear of scarcity;
let us greet strangers as angels you have sent!
Send your Spirit now
so that we may find a place at your table
and welcome others with radical hospitality.
In the name of Jesus, Guest at all our tables, we pray. Amen.**

~ written by Rev. Christopher Ney, and posted on the United Church of Christ's **Worship Ways** website. <http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/year-c/p/pentecost-ordinary-time-15.html>

SONG AS CHILDREN GATHER TFWS 2233 Where Children Belong

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN UMH 463 Lord, Speak to Me

TIME OF PRAYER

PASTORAL AND SILENT PRAYER (MUSIC)

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory now and forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

***UNISON PRAYER**

Almighty God,
giver of every good and perfect gift,
teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are,
that we may praise you not with our words only,
but with our whole lives.

LESSON 1 Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 CEB

Keep loving each other like family. ² Don't neglect to open up your homes to guests, because by doing this some have been hosts to angels without knowing it. ³ Remember prisoners as if you were in prison with them, and people who are mistreated as if you were in their place. ⁴ Marriage must be honored in every respect, with no cheating on the relationship, because God will judge the sexually immoral person and the person who commits adultery. ⁵ Your way of life should be free from the love of money, and you should be content with what you have. After all, he has said, *I will never leave you or abandon you.* ⁶ This is why we can confidently say,

***The Lord is my helper,
and I won't be afraid.
What can people do to me?***

⁷ Remember your leaders who spoke God's word to you. Imitate their faith as you consider the way their lives turned out. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever!

May God add a blessing to this reading.

***LESSON 2 Luke 14:1, 7-14 CEB**

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to share a meal in the home of one of the leaders of the Pharisees, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When Jesus noticed how the guests sought out the best seats at the table, he told them a parable. ⁸ “When someone invites you to a wedding celebration, don’t take your seat in the place of honor. Someone more highly regarded than you could have been invited by your host. ⁹ The host who invited both of you will come and say to you, ‘Give your seat to this other person.’ Embarrassed, you will take your seat in the least important place. ¹⁰ Instead, when you receive an invitation, go and sit in the least important place. When your host approaches you, he will say, ‘Friend, move up here to a better seat.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all your fellow guests. ¹¹ All who lift themselves up will be brought low, and those who make themselves low will be lifted up.”

¹² Then Jesus said to the person who had invited him, “When you host a lunch or dinner, don’t invite your friends, your brothers and sisters, your relatives, or rich neighbors. If you do, they will invite you in return and that will be your reward. ¹³ Instead, when you give a banquet, invite the poor, crippled, lame, and blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they can’t repay you. Instead, you will be repaid when the just are resurrected.”

L: This is the Word of God for all people.

P: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

The Seagull Problem

HYMN

Are Ye Able UMH 530

BENEDICTION

TFWS 2186 Song of Hope

POSTLUDE