

Monday, March 8

Readings: Psalm 39

Jeremiah 11:1-17

Romans 2:1-11

Prayer: *Christ has no body now but yours.
No hands, no feet on earth but yours.*

*Yours are the eyes through which He looks
compassion on this world.*

*Yours are the feet
with which he walks to do good.*

*Yours are the hands
with which He blesses all the world.*

Yours are the hands, yours are the feet.

Yours are the eyes, you are His body.

Christ has no body now but yours.

No hands, no feet on earth but yours.

*Yours are the eyes through which He looks
compassion on this world.*

Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

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Commit intentionally

means making a statement about your intent and following through. As members in the body of Christ, we are asked to make a commitment of our time, talents, and resources as a faithful response to God and as a statement of support for God's work.

**"... arrange in advance for this bountiful gift that you have promised."
2 Corinthians 9:5**

Focal Verse: "Or do you despise the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience? Do you not realize that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?"
Romans 2:4

Reflection: In grace-full living we are changed by God's grace, and that same grace makes our gifts more valuable to others. Perhaps in your own grace-full living, you have not thought of yourself as "the giver". Yet we all show generosity toward others not only in how we use our financial resources, but also in how we spend the resources of our time and energy. Such generosity is truly a wonderful expression of God's grace.

So how can we all model such generosity for others? It is not only what we give but the emotion behind our giving. Giving willingly and with the optimism that our gifts will be used toward God's work is how we model that grace-full generosity. Giving in celebration rather than in competition with others leads to the fullest support of important opportunities and ministries, as we are all one in the body of Christ. Paul's letter asks us, the many members of one body, to consider our individual gifts. Do you see yourself as "the giver"? How so? Our genuine modeling of financial wellness to others comes when we fully embrace "the giver" in ourselves.³⁶

What do you hear?
How does it make you feel?
Toward what are you being drawn?
What do you sense you should do?

³⁶ Grace-Full Living, © 2009 Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, p. 12.