Christ Lutheran Church
115 Church Street, Duncannon, PA 17020
717.834.3140
Pastor Jennifer Toburen
Organist – Joe Abate
www.clcduncannon.org



Sunday, October 18, 2026
The 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Announcements

Congregation please stand

OPENING/CALL TO WORSHIP

P Sing to the Lord and bless God's name.

C Tell of God's saving power from day to day.

P Worship the Lord in holy splendor.

C Tremble before God, all the earth.

From: *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion – Year A Vol. 2,* ed. Kimberly Bracken Long, p. 211.

PREPARING

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.
Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn ***"O God Beyond All Praising"*** **ELW 880**

O God beyond All Praising



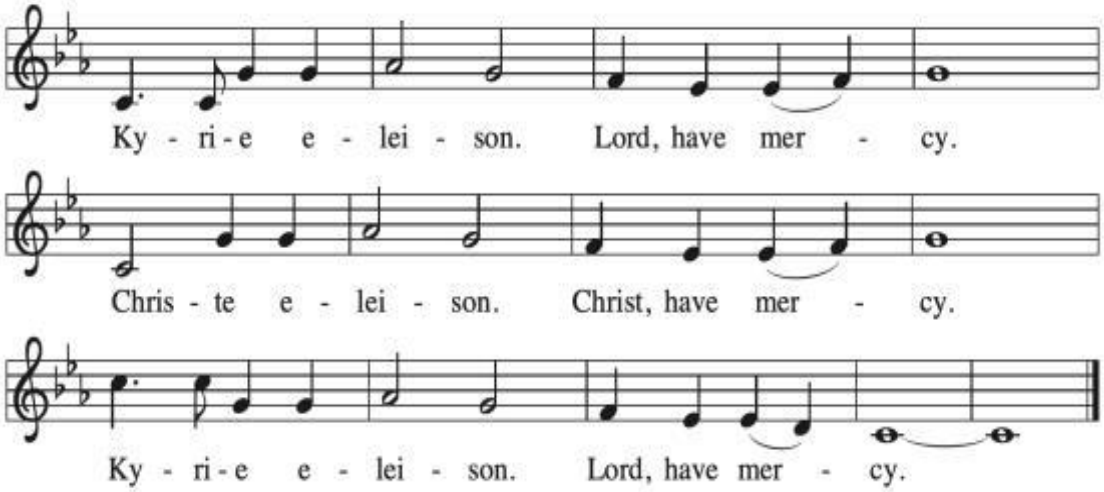
Text: Michael Perry, 1942–1996
Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934
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APOSTOLIC GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C And also with you.

Kyrie ***Congregation will sing all of the Kyrie in unison.***



Hymn of Praise



Prayer of the Day

Holy God, you have made us in your image, and we belong to you alone. Therefore, we offer ourselves to you, in service, love, and praise. Use us for the glory of your realm and the good of your people; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

WORD

First Reading **Isaiah 45: 1-7**

[1] Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and to strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:
[2] I will go before you
and level the mountains;
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron;
[3] I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
[4] For the sake of my servant Jacob
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name;
I give you a title, though you do not know me.
[5] I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
[6] so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.

7 I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

Word of God, Word of life.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

1 Sing to the LORD | a new song;
sing to the LORD, | all the earth.
2 **Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;**
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.
3 Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.
4 **For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,**
more to be feared | than all gods.
5 As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.
6 **Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;**
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.
7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.
8 **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;**
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD.
9 Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.
10 **Tell it out among the nations: "The | LORD is king!**
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peo- | ples with equity."
11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that | is therein.
12 **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- | ing, O LORD,**
for you come to | judge the earth.
3 You will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peoples | with your truth.

Second Reading **1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

[1] Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

[2] We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly
[3] remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. [4] For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, [5] because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. [6] And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, [7] so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. [8] For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. [9] For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God [10] and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

Word of God, Word of life.
Thanks be to God.

Congregation please stand

Gospel Acclamation



The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 22: 15-22

[5] The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. [16] So they sent their disciples to
him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of
God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with
partiality. [17] Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” [18] But Jesus,
aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? [19] Show me the coin
used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. [20] Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and
whose title?” [21] They answered, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to Caesar the
things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” [22] When they heard this, they were
amazed, and they left him and went away.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon **Pastor Jennifer**

Hymn of the Day **ELW 686**

We Give Thee but Thine Own



Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.
Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Laudis*, 1850

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sign of Peace
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C And also with you.

Prayers of Intercession

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

Living and true God, you inspire us to share the message of the gospel. Give your spirit of love to seminarians and those beginning their lives in ordained ministry……..Hear us, O God.
C Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for the majesty of our oceans. Protect the abundant life within them and sustain all those who work to preserve them……...Hear us, O God.
C Your mercy is great.

We seek your wisdom in all things. Direct all who hold positions of authority around the world, that they act with compassion, seeking the good of all……..Hear us, O God.
C Your mercy is great.

We pray for family and friends as well as our siblings in faith. Wrap your steadfast love around them and keep them always in your care. We pray for Shirley, Allan, Charlotte, Jack, Cathy, Roxy, Karen, Darlene, Chuck, Jessie, Millie, Peggy, Glenn, Carol, Marian, Bing, and Sandy…….Hear us, O God.
C Your mercy is great.

We ask your blessing on those who do the quiet, unseen work of the church. Encourage them in their work of faith and labor of love…….Hear us, O God.
C Your mercy is great.

We thank you for our ancestors who have been called home to you…….Hear us, O God.
C Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Stewardship Snippet

Would you consider yourself someone who is "brand loyal"? Do you instinctively choose Starbucks over filling-station coffee? Do you have a preference for Ford or Chevy, or are you a loyal Subaru owner? This week's gospel lesson reminds us that our loyalty is to God and God alone. After all everything is God's—including us. Faithful stewardship begins there. We can ask ourselves: since my whole life belongs to God, how might I faithfully use what has been entrusted to me?

Lector - We will now worship God with our offering.

Offertory

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offering Song



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*. admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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MEAL

P Let us pray,

C Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you
C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts
C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Eucharistic Prayer

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

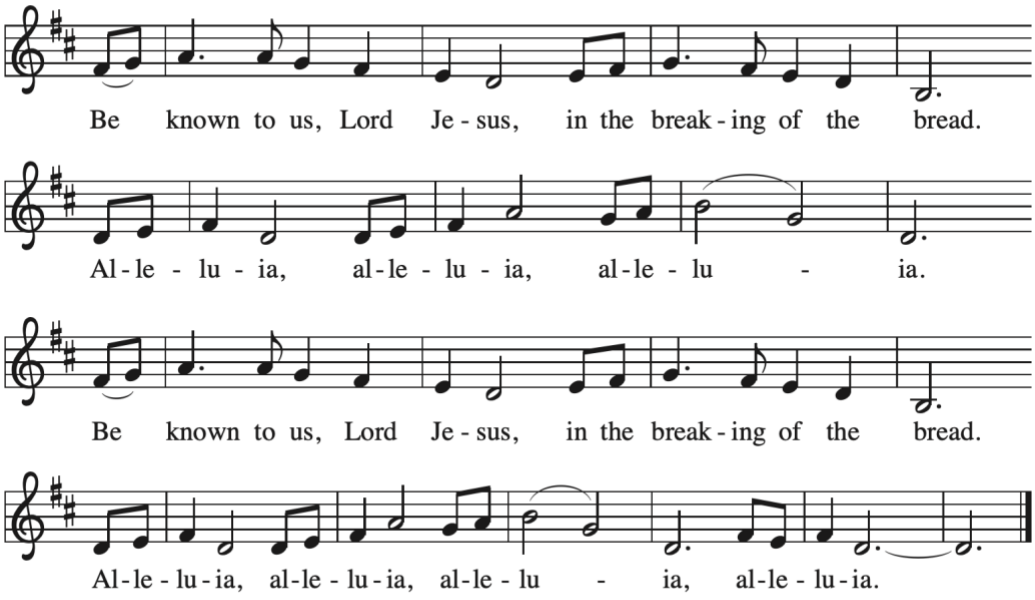
P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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,
forever and ever. Amen

P So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a while; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who are wandering still.
Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.
Amen.

Please be seated

Be Known to us, Lord Jesus



Holy Communion

Prepackaged communion is available for those who wish to remain in the pews.

COMMUNION HYMNS: 685, 688

Congregation please stand

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C Amen.



Post Communion Prayer

Holy Jesus, in this meal you have fed and nourished us to work in your beloved world.
Send us now, filled with yourself and strengthened by your Spirit
to live your love for others.
Amen.

SENDING

Charge

P Go forth to declare God's glory
among all the nations
so that God's wonderful work
may be known to all.

Blessing

P The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.
The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.
The God of grace ✝ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

Sending Hymn ***"O God of Every Nation"*** **ELW 713**

O God of Every Nation



Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923
Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.
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P We at Christ Lutheran Church are
C God's called, Loved Children who serve.
P Go in Peace. The living Word dwells in you.
C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Christ Lutheran Church Staff

Church email: christlutheranduncannon@gmail.com

Pastor: Jennifer Toburen – Phone: 734-576-2025
Email: pastorjenn.clc.duncannon@gmail.com

Organist: Joe Abate – Email: - jeagdp@aol.com

Council President: Bill Brookhart – Email: billbrookhart195@gmail.com

Secretary: Cindy Brookhart – Email: cbsecretaryclc@gmail.com

Treasurer: Ann Fleisher – Email: TreasurerCLC@live.com

Sexton: Judy Swartz - Email: gammy2072@gmail.com

Prayer Concerns

Shirley Hoffman, Pat Reich, Elyse Brown, Allan Imler, Sylvia Webb & the Indian Mobile Mission, Join Hands, Loads of Love, Neighbor Helping Neighbor, Brian Proctor, Joanne Reisinger, Jackie Maguire, Jack Smith, Cathy Cavanaugh, Charlotte Dyer, Rachelle Gilcrease, Roxy Huss, Karen Ersoz, Darlene Johnson, Marian Hoffman, Ron & Nancy Moore, Chuck Hoffman, Jessie Frye, Carol & Glenn Shumaker, Millie Bell, Lillian Kistler, Hope Kominek, Peggy Paden, Chris Hope, Velma Wittlinger, Lindsey Melnick, Judy Moore, Kristen Gaisior, Charlene McBride, Gay Weller, Frank Valentine, David Siegfried, Sr., John Hofer, Jesse Clouser and Family, David Lozen, Jim & Vicki Smith, Brenda Malek, Sandy Hoover, the family of Helen Huss, George Wolfe, Dan Killinger, Jeff Toburen, Tina Toburen, the family of Jason Taylor.

The Altar Flowers are Presented to the Glory of God
By Jake & Beverly Reifsnyder
In loving memory of their parents.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector/prayers – Ernie Meisel
Next Sunday – Ann Fleisher

Wine – Beverly Reifsnyder
Next Sunday – Cindy Brookhart

Grape Juice – Judy Swartz
Next Sunday – Bill Brookhart

Altar Guild – Brianne Chubb
Next Sunday – Jean Tota

Counters – Becky Meisel, Sue Landis
Next Sunday – Kendra Masser, Joe Kistler

Ushers – Team 3
Bill Brookhart, Joe Kistler
Terry Kuhn, Becky Yohe

Acolytes – Bill Brookhart, Hatch Dobbs, Clyde Tota

SUNDAY, October 18th, 2026
The 21st Sunday after Pentecost
Worship Service 11:00am – Holy Communion
Bible Study – 7pm - Zoom
Birthday – Donna Clay

MONDAY, October 19th, 2026

TUESDAY, October 20th, 2026
Bible Study – 1pm – Zoom

WEDNESDAY, October 21st, 2026
ELCA Study Session – 6-8pm @ CLC
Birthday – Ernie Meisel
Anniversary – Chuck & Carrie Hoffman

THURSDAY, October 22nd, 2026
Birthday – Ann Fleisher
Anniversary – Joe & Lillian Kistler

FRIDAY, October 23rd, 2026

SATURDAY, October 24th, 2026

SUNDAY, October 25th, 2026
Reformation Sunday – Potluck Dinner following worship
Worship service – 11:00 am - Holy Communion
Bible Study – 7pm – Zoom

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Noisy Offering Sunday – Today all offering collected will go to Join Hands in order to help them combat the heating oil crisis that many Perry County families are facing this winter with the average cost of heating oil at 5.60 a gallon.

Trick or Treat – Duncannon's Trick or Treat will be held on Saturday, October 31st from 6-8pm. CLC will be handing out treats down on High Street. We are asking for donations of candy or other types of treats…ie: pretzels, cheese balls, anything individually wrapped.

Pumpkin Rolls – Stephanie Hofer will be making pumpkin rolls this year. The cost is $10 each. She will be baking on November 21st and delivery will be November 22nd. You can pick up your order following worship here at CLC. **The deadline to order is November 13th. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway.**
Donations of ingredients will be accepted: eggs, cream cheese, flour, sugar, 10X sugar, vanilla, butter, real pumpkin in the can (not the pumpkin pie mix). All proceeds come back to CLC.

Reformation Sunday & Potluck Dinner – Reformation Sunday is October 25th. Remember to wear your RED! Following worship we would like to get a photo of the entire congregation. A Potluck dinner will be held following the service.

All Saints Sunday - November 1st is All Saints Sunday. If you have a name/names of loved ones who have passed away that you would like noted in the bulletin, please give them to Cindy B.

Congregational Turkey Dinner – The turkey dinner is coming up soon. Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 14th at **4pm.** As always the turkey, gravy and filling is supplied. The congregation as asked to bring the side dishes. There is a sign up sheet available. If you would like to give a monetary gift towards purchasing a turkey, that would be awesome! Please see Cindy B.

Social Ministry Project for October - We are collecting donations for the Perry County Animal Rescue in Millerstown. They have a wish list that you may access by going to their website. Some items are: dry cat food (Purina or GoodLife), dog toys (no rawhide), peanut butter, spray cheese. Cleaning supplies: paper towels, bleach, vinegar peroxide. For a more complete list, please see the website.

Synod Assembly 2027 – Synod Assembly will be held at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in York on Friday, June 11 and Saturday, June 12, 2027. If you are interested in representing CLC as a voting member, please see Pastor Jenn or Bill Brookhart. Our congregation will be voting on this at the annual congregational meeting in November.

Pastor Jenn is currently offering a five-week study session to review and discuss the ELCA Social Statement: Human Sexuality - Gift and Trust. The ELCA is currently engaged in a discernment period on possible changes to the statement and seeks feedback from church members like us. The sessions are held on Wednesdays from 6:00 - 8:00.
October 21 @ CLC
October 28 @ Mt Zion
If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to Pastor Jenn.

October Meetings/Events
October 18 – Newsletter deadline.
October 21 - ELCA Human Sexuality study session @ CLC 6-8pm.
October 25 – Reformation Day Potluck Dinner following worship.
October 27 – Community Outreach committee meeting – 7pm – Zoom.
October 28 - ELCA Human Sexuality study session @ Mt Zion 6-8pm.
October 31 – Duncannon Treat or Treat – 6 to 8pm.

November Meetings/Events
November 1 – All Saints Sunday
Christmas Bazaar meeting following worship.
November 9 – Finance meeting – 7pm – Zoom
November 12 – Duncannon Golden Age will meet at CLC. Lunch will be provided.
Church Council meeting – 6:30pm.
November 14 – Turkey Dinner - 4pm
November 15 – Annual Congregational Meeting following worship.
November 23 – CLC Book Club Discussion

GOSPEL MESSAGE

October 18, 2026
LECTIONARY 29
Undivided Loyalty

When Jesus holds up a coin in the marketplace and asks the Pharisees and Herodians, "Whose head is this and whose title?" (Matthew 22:20), he is asking a question not about money, taxes, or the Roman Empire—at least not directly. It is likely that the emperor's title, printed on that coin, proclaimed the emperor's divinity: an implicit question of loyalty. And when Jesus asks his hearers to give "to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's" (v. 21), he invites his hearers to decide where they will place their loyalty. What will they give to God? What belongs to the emperor?

We might ask ourselves the same question: Where do we place our loyalty? Where do we place our trust? In Jesus, we see an example: Jesus is loyal to us. Jesus is loyal to us when he teaches. Jesus is loyal to us when he bends down to wash his disciples' feet. Jesus is loyal to us when he goes to the cross, dies, and rises again for us and for our salvation. Jesus is always loyal to us. Jesus is generous with us in pouring out grace upon grace for us. And we respond to Jesus' loyalty and generosity with loyalty and generosity of our own.

Throughout our lives, we are empowered by the loyalty and generosity of Jesus to give to God the things that are God's. We offer our resources for the good of our neighbors. We offer our time, investing in the work of the gospel in our communities and beyond. And we offer our very selves, pledging our undivided loyalty to Jesus, who is loyal to us first.