

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We thank you, God, for the biblical record of Jesus' ministry and for the signs and wonders you worked through him as evidence of your compassion and power. Thank you for those saints who have marched to the heartbeat of our living Lord, holding high the banner of freedom and justice. May your spirit continue to move in and through us. Amen.

Stewardship Thought

The church treasurer resigns:

The day the church treasurer resigned, the church asked the local grain elevator manager to take the position. He agreed under two conditions:

- That no treasurer's report would be given for the first year.
- That no questions be asked about finances during that year.
- The people were surprised, but finally agreed since most of them did business with him and he was a trusted man.

At the end of the year he gave this report:

- The church indebtedness of \$228,000 had been paid.
- The minister's salary had been increased by the amount of 8 percent.
- The Cooperative Program had been paid 200 percent.
- There were no outstanding bills.
- And there was a cash balance of \$11,252!

Immediately the shocked congregation asked, "How did you do it? Where did the money come from?"

He answered quietly: “Most of you bring your grain to my elevator. Throughout the year I simply withheld 10 percent on your behalf and gave it to the church in your name. You didn’t even miss it! Do you see what we could do for the Lord if we were all willing to give at least the tithe to God, who really owns it?”

And so the new treasurer had made his point.

Offertory Sentence

We live in a world where it seems so often that there is not enough. For many it seems the wine has run out. Enable us to do our part within the church, that all may know that God is with them.

Commissioning

Let us go into the world to expect miracles, giving the glory to God, the miracle-worker.

Benediction

The blessing of the transforming Christ is upon us.