

Easter Offering Meditation
For use April 1, 2018



Alleluia – Christ is risen! Thanks be to God for the promise that love is stronger even than death itself. God’s love is overflowing in Christ Jesus who has been raised, not simply to get us into heaven, but to get heaven into us - and through us - into the world.

We come to the moment of offering which might also be understood as a moment of opportunity.

It is an opportunity to say “thank you” for what this day means. Like the tenth leper who upon being healed stopped and turned back to express his gratitude to Jesus – we have chance to do the same. In the midst of our joyous singing that “Christ the Lord is Risen Today”, we can stop to display our overflowing gratefulness. Our gifts are a way to say thank you.

It is an opportunity to proclaim what Jesus promised us – that the Realm [Kingdom] of God has come near. When we offer our gifts, we are partners in the ministry that this congregation and our mission partners support. *{You may choose to name here one or more ministries that your congregation engages in by name.}* Feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, sheltering the homeless, offering clean water, witnessing for justice, teaching the faith and extending the welcome of Christ’s Table are all empowered by the gifts we share here in the moment of receiving an offering.

It is also an opportunity, by our actions, to say that we believe that God has the ultimate claim on our lives and everything we have. That because of Easter, we have become stewards of the multi-colored grace of God that overflows in our lives and through our compassionate and intentional actions, overflows into the world around us.

In this holy moment of giving, may we be motivated first and foremost by what we have received in the news of an empty tomb, and seize this opportunity to demonstrate how much it means to us that he is risen indeed.