



# 65B PENTECOST 24B – CRESSY & WARRION LITURGY

Giving your all

## Abstract

43 Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you; this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. 44 They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

Mark 12:43-44

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## OLD TESTAMENT

### *1 Kings 17:8–16*

<sup>8</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to him: <sup>9</sup>“Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food.” <sup>10</sup>So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, “Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?” <sup>11</sup>As she was going to get it, he called, “And bring me, please, a piece of bread.”

<sup>12</sup>“As surely as the LORD your God lives,” she replied, “I don’t have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.”

<sup>13</sup>Elijah said to her, “Don’t be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. <sup>14</sup>For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the LORD sends rain on the land.’ ”

<sup>15</sup>She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. <sup>16</sup>For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah.<sup>i</sup>

## GOSPEL

*Mark 12:38–44*

### **Warning Against the Teachers of the Law**

<sup>38</sup> As he taught, Jesus said, “Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup> and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. <sup>40</sup> They devour widows’ houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely.”

### **The Widow’s Offering**

*12:41–44pp—Lk 21:1–4*

<sup>41</sup> Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. <sup>42</sup> But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

<sup>43</sup> Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. <sup>44</sup> They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.” <sup>ii</sup>

*respond*

For the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## 65B Pentecost 24B – Cressy & Warrion Liturgy

### Giving your all

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2021 | PENTECOST 24B | PROPER 27 | YEAR B

*On the same date: All Saints (Observed)*

*Old Testament & Psalm, Option I*

*Old Testament* Ruth 3:1–5, 4:13–17

*Psalm* Psalm 127

*or*

*Old Testament & Psalm, Option II*

*Old Testament* 1 Kings 17:8–16

*Psalm* Psalm 146

*New Testament* Hebrews 9:24–28

*Gospel* Mark 12:38–44<sup>iii</sup>

In Mark's Gospel, this scene takes place just after Jesus has made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, and in the last few chapters before his death. The crowds love him, but the religious teachers are threatened and now begin, in earnest, to try to find ways to trip him up so that they can legitimately silence him. But Jesus continues to speak out. Jesus is critical of the greed he sees in Jerusalem and its Temple; he contrasts the showy donations made by the rich elite with the tiny, but proportionally much greater, amount given by a poor widow.

If we include the story from 1 Kings, we are asked to consider two widows who give everything they have. The one who so generously cares for Elijah is left only with God's promise, delivered through Elijah's prophetic words. The generous actions of the other is used by Jesus to teach about the sacrificial giving.

This week we explore living and giving generously.

	<p><b>Pre-Service</b></p> <p>God so loved - Hillsong</p>
	<p><b>Introit</b></p>
	<p><b>Greeting</b></p> <p>May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ The Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all</p> <p><b>and also with you</b></p>

	<p><b>We Gather</b></p> <p><b>Call to worship</b>  Let us open our hearts, our minds, and our eyes  to see the generous gifts of God,  and respond with praise and thanksgiving.</p> <p><b>Acknowledgements</b>  We acknowledge the .....people,  the first inhabitants and custodians of this place  from time beyond remembering.</p> <p><b>A gathering prayer</b>  Generous God,  we come, individually and together,  as your people to be resourced, inspired and blessed.  We come, thankful for the self-giving love of Jesus.  Inspired by his example, may we be generous and giving,  with no reward other than knowing we are doing your will.  <del>We ask this in his name.</del>  Amen.</p> <p><b>A prayer of confession</b>  Lord Jesus Christ,  we come to you in sorrow for our selfishness,  in regret for our greed,  in despair over our blindness and deafness  to the needs of those around us.  With penitent hearts we seek your forgiveness,  and your blessing to make us more generous,  more giving, more able to see, and more willing to listen.  Amen.</p> <p><b>Assurance of forgiveness</b>  Our God of generosity forgives those who truly repent.  Our God lifts the burdens from our hearts  and the blindness from our eyes  and sets us free to be the people we are called to be.  Amen.</p>
<b>Verse 1,  Verse 2,  Verse 3,</b>	<p><b>Hymn/song</b></p> <p>Tis #416 – “Great God, your Spirit, like the wind”</p>

## Welcome

In Mark's Gospel,  
     this scene takes place  
 just after Jesus has made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem,  
     and in the last few chapters before his death.  
 The crowds love him,  
     but the religious teachers are threatened  
         and now begin, in earnest, to try to find ways to trip him up  
     so that they can legitimately silence him.  
 But Jesus continues to speak out.

Jesus is critical of the greed he sees in Jerusalem and its Temple;  
     he contrasts the showy donations made by the rich elite  
     with the tiny, but proportionally much greater, amount  
     given by a poor widow.

If we include the story from 1 Kings,  
     we are asked to consider two widows who give everything they have.  
 The one who so generously cares for Elijah is left only with God's promise,  
     delivered through Elijah's prophetic words.  
 The generous actions of the other is used by Jesus  
     to teach about the sacrificial giving.

- Ask everyone to think of one generous thing they have seen someone do, or heard about, recently. Invite a few willing people to share their examples.
- 1AUD = 10738.88322 IDR  
 30AUD = 320,000 IDR  
 3 volunteers and give each a – returnable! – \$10 note.  
 volunteer one is a millionaire;  
 volunteer two earns about \$85,000 per year; a  
 volunteer three has no regular income or job,  
     receives on average about \$750 a month.  
 If each person gives their \$10 note to a good cause (collect in the \$10 notes!)  
 – who is the most generous and why?

Today's worship is about what it means to live and give generously.

## A prayer of approach

Eternal God, you call us to this time and place,  
     to still our minds and gather our thoughts,  
     to see the immensity of your giving to us.  
 You are the giver of life in all its fullness;  
     the giver of gifts beyond compare;  
     the giver of more than we can imagine or comprehend.  
 We come before you now.  
 Amen.

## Readings

1 Kings 17:8–16  
 Mark 12:38–44

*Respond* :For the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

1, C, 2, C,  
3, C, 4, C,  
5, C,

### Hymn/Song

Be exalted O God

### Address

Some people love 'people watching',  
being in places where people gather  
shopping centres, airports, waiting rooms, and so on  
studying their gestures and mannerisms,  
imagining their journeys and destinations,  
or their reasons for being in that place.

If you are one of those people,  
you have something in common with Jesus.

Jesus was a great watcher,  
not just of people but of all that was around him.

And he often drew on what he saw  
to teach his followers about God's kingdom.

He would use something familiar,  
something that everyone could see if they cared to look,  
to talk about something unseen.

In today's story, Jesus was watching people  
as they made their money offerings to the Temple.

And among them he saw a woman  
who was careful and thoughtful in her offering  
it was not much, but it was pretty much all she had.

Perhaps this sacrificial act struck a chord,  
reminding Jesus of the days that lay ahead,  
of his own self-offering, and of everything he must soon sacrifice.

Jesus was drawn again and again  
to vulnerable people, to outcasts, to those who had little or no status or wealth.

Perhaps he saw a heart of faith and trust revealed in their actions,  
despite the circumstances and challenges that faced them.

Perhaps he wondered whether the disciples saw the same as he did,  
and whether they would understand his sacrifice.

If you do watch people,  
perhaps they remind you of events in your own life  
some good, some less so.

Perhaps they encourage you to reflect  
on your own circumstances, choices and actions.

If you saw an action of overwhelming compassion or generosity,  
like that of the widow,  
would that stir you to do something similar?

But there's more to it than just the doing of the action itself.

You never know  
when your life, your actions, will stir something in someone else.

If that 'someone' was people watching you,  
would they see something to inspire them?

	<p><b>Hymn/song</b> TIS 738 – Jesus, My Saviour (Shout to the Lord)</p>
	<p><b>Offering</b></p> <p>Imagining we are very poor, we think our gifts don't matter, and so give very little. Yet, from the abundance of your love, you challenge us to be as faithful as the woman Jesus speaks about. Make us more generous and gracious givers, even as you take what we offer in these moments and use them in the work of your kingdom. Amen.</p>
	<p><b>Notices</b></p>
	<p><b>Prayers for all people</b></p> <p><i>Imagine now you find yourself in a public place – in a café, on a bus, walking down the street – look at those around you.</i></p> <p><i>Notice people's expressions, the way they talk and walk. Do they look tired? Pleased? Anxious?</i></p> <p><i>Ask God to guide your prayers, and then pray silently for the strangers around you.</i></p> <p><i>Let us pray</i> God, Change my heart, today. Transform the patterns of my thoughts so that I reflect your will in all I say and do. Shake me out my apathy; sweep away any bitterness, cruelty and greed. Lord, Change my heart today.</p> <p>Lord, God of the poor and defender of the weak, whose laws protect the widow and the orphan, we pray for those who have little, and those who struggle to make ends meet.</p> <p>We give thanks for those who work for the relief of poverty, for those who provide food for the hungry and facilitate development among the disadvantaged.</p> <p>We pray for all who work to bring an end to injustice through lobbying, awareness raising and education.</p> <p>We pray for provision and assurance – that all may know their value,</p>



	<p>how much they have to give and the difference they can make, so that no one feels small and useless, but affirmed as precious children of God.</p> <p>Help us, as individuals and as church, to be prepared to walk on the margins of life, to befriend the outcasts, to notice the invisible and to share what we have with others Amen</p>
	<p><b>Lord's Prayer</b> Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, Now and forever. Amen</p>
<p><b>Verse 1, Verse 2, Verse 3, Verse 4,</b></p>	<p><b>Hymn/song</b> TIS #595 – "O Jesus I have promised to serve You to the end"</p>
	<p><b>We are sent out</b></p> <p>Generous God, make us generous. Make us generous in joy, and generous in love. Help us to remember what we have done today. Remind us, every day, that we need to share our love for you with others, that we need to give and live generously – for you are generous God, our God. Be with each one of us and all whom we love, this week and always. Amen.</p> <p>May the Lord bless us and keep us May His face shine upon us and be gracious to us May he lift up His countenance upon us and give us peace</p>
<p><b>Verse 1, Verse 1,</b></p>	<p><b>Benediction</b> Shalom my friend</p>
	<p><b>Thank you</b></p>

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<sup>i</sup> [The New International Version](#). (2011). (1 Ki 17:8–16). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

<sup>ii</sup> [The New International Version](#). (2011). (Mk 12:38–44). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

<sup>iii</sup> [Revised Common Lectionary](#). (2009). Bellingham, WA: Faithlife.