"Generosity" Resources

Worship Reflection

Click <u>here</u> to listen to "Reckless Love" – the first song in Andrew's worship video. Reflect on the way God's generosity is captured in this song and listen for God's invitation to you personally.

AND/OR:

Reflective Reading

Spend some time practicing God's presence while reading through the prayer on the following pages by Walter Brueggemann. If you like, turn it into a reflective reading or "lectio divina":

Read it slowly three times. If you are with others, read aloud, with several different readers, briefly pausing in between.

The <u>first</u> time you read, listen for a word or phrase that jumps out at you. During the <u>second</u> reading, consider how that word or phrase relates to your life. During the <u>third</u> reading, listen for the invitation God wants to offer you through that word or phrase.

Take some time to share your insights and experience with one another.

AND/OR

Discuss (Use any or all of the following):

- Are there places in your life where you are experiencing scarcity? Can you invite God into that place and see what our generous God might want to offer you?
- Can you imagine ways God is calling our community to embody God's generosity in the world?

"On Generosity"

Walter Brueggemann

On our own, we conclude: there is not enough to go around

we are going to run short of money of love of grades of publications of sex of beer of members of years of life

we should seize the day seize our goods seize our neighbours goods because there is not enough to go around

and in the midst of our perceived deficit you come you come giving bread in the wilderness you come giving children at the 11th hour you come giving homes to exiles you come giving futures to the shut down you come giving easter joy to the dead you come – fleshed in Jesus.

and we watch while the blind receive their sight the lame walk the lepers are cleansed the deaf hear the dead are raised the poor dance and sing

we watch and we take food we did not grow and life we did not invent and future that is gift and gift and gift and families and neighbours who sustain us when we did not deserve it.

It dawns on us — late rather than soonthat you "give food in due season you open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing."

By your giving, break our cycles of imagined scarcity override our presumed deficits quiet our anxieties of lack transform our perceptual field to see the abundance.....mercy upon mercy blessing upon blessing.

Sink your generosity deep into our lives that your muchness may expose our false lack that endlessly receiving we may endlessly give so that the world may be made Easter new, without greedy lack, but only wonder, without coercive need but only love, without destructive greed but only praise without aggression and invasiveness.... all things Easter new..... all around us, toward us and by us

all things Easter new.

Finish your creation, in wonder, love and praise. Amen."