

April, 2008

## Sunday Morning 2<sup>nd</sup> Service, Prayer for the Offering

Oh Gracious and Loving God of Heaven,

We come before you, *immersed* in your blessings, engulfed in your goodness. By your grace, we are *so very rich*. Your gifts are *extravagant*, O God!

You give us salvation, you give us grace and mercy and love. You give us heaven. You give us *life*! You faithfully care for us; you feed us, shelter and clothe us.

We see blue skies and clouds and rainbows, sunrises and sunsets, and green grass and flowers and mountains and valleys. We hear mocking birds and waterfalls and the wind in the trees.

*Every day* you paint the sky and beautiful landscapes and you serenade us with sounds from your creation. How *precious* and *priceless*! *We are given so much!*

If we truly consider your blessing, we can only be lost in wonder!

Help us to let go of the little things and trinkets that we cling to so tightly and chase so intently. Help us look up and see the great treasure you have placed all around us, so big and so vast that it will take our breath away.

Help us to give then, neither out of our excess nor our lack, but out of profound gratitude, faith, and joy as we celebrate, bask in, and share the wonders of your deep inexhaustible blessings and the riches of your extravagant love.

In the name of Jesus Christ, our brother and King, Amen.

Brian Shrock