**Theme – Holy Habit … Giving**

The Book of Acts gives us ten clear instructions of how to become stronger and more faithful disciples. These are called ‘**Holy Habits**’ and they assist us in deepening our discipleship. Today we shall explore the fifth Holy Habit, **Giving**.

During the service we shall be learning about God’s greatest gift to us, and how we can be a ‘gift’ to other people.

**Call to worship taken from Acts 2:1-21**

Leader We lay aside our busyness,

 and pray for rest.

**All We lay aside our distractedness,**

 **and pray for peace.**

Leader We lay aside our dissatisfaction,

 and pray for gratitude.

**All We lay aside our fear,**

 **and pray for courage**.

Leader We lay aside our divisions,

 and pray for unity.

**All We lay aside all that separates us from you,
 and pray for your blessing.**

 **Amen.**

**Hymn** **RS 586** *All my hope on God is founded*

**Opening prayers**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**A song to welcome the Word**

Bring your questions, bring your feelings,

bring the things you think you’ve learned.

Here, with God, let’s search for meaning,

in encounter with God’s Word.

By these texts and their retelling,

heard through all we bring today,

may God grant fresh understanding

of the role we’re called to play.

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 Tune is what a friend we have in Jesus

**Readings** *Luke 19:1-10*

 *2 Corinthians 9*

**Introduction to ‘Holy Habits’**  *Models of Giving*

**Hymn RS 42** *For the fruits of all creation, thanks be to God*

**Offertory**

**Hymn RS 145** *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

**‘Holy Habit’ …** *Forms of Giving*

**Hymn** Great Source of all our life,
 we come with thanks and praise,
 for countless gifts of love with which you bless our days.
 With joyful hearts
 we come to you, renewing now
 our gifts of love.

 For time to work and play,
 for talents we can share,
 for wealth enough to live, and give for others' care,
 With joyful hearts
 we come to you, renewing now
 our gifts of love.

 For those who went before,
 strong followers of your way,
 who worked and gave to build the church we know today,
 With joyful hearts
 we come to you, renewing now
 our gifts of love.

 Dear God who first loved us
 and drew our hearts toward you,
 confirm our faith, increase our love our whole life through.
 With joyful hearts
 we come to you, renewing now
 our gifts of love.

 Joy F Patterson (born 1931) from the author's collection *Come, You People of the Promise*
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 **Prayers of Intercession**

 **Hymn RS 72** *Now thank we all our God*

 **Closing Prayer**

 **Blessing**



**5. Giving**

