

# 20201118 Gratitude the impulse of God, divine Love



Nov 16 2020

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 Thank you for previewing the Wednesday night readings for our service. The Bible and our textbook, Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy, are our pastor and the following citations from each comprise our readings. The citations from the KJV (King James Version) are presented below because the KJV is the standard used in our church and presented through Concord, a research and study tool developed by the Mother Church for our movement. The First Reader has elected to read the same verses from the NLT (New Living Translation).

The theme of our readings is inspired by Page 60:15-21 wherein Gratitude is the impulse of God, divine Love.

## 1. Hymn. 524:1

REFRAIN

Like a river that runs to the ocean,  
Like a ray reaching out from the sun,  
Like a branch and the tree, a drop and the sea,  
I and my Father are one.

## 2. Hymn. 597:1

Where charity and love abide,  
We know that God is there,  
And Christ has gathered us as one  
To love the living God.

## 3. Hymn. 601:1

With one accord in one place,  
In joyful praise of God's grace,  
We join together in one divine embrace.

A rushing mighty Spirit  
Descends from heaven, hear it:  
“I have touched your heart  
And made whole your heart,  
Now go walk in My light.”  
All can hear of it,  
Hearts revealing it,  
Gently moved by Your might.

### 1. Gen. 1:26, 27

- 26 ¶ And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.
- 27 So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

### 2. Luke 7:36–50

- 36 ¶ And one of the Pharisees desired him that he would eat with him. And he went into the Pharisee's house, and sat down to meat.
- 37 And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that *Jesus* sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment,
- 38 And stood at his feet behind *him* weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe *them* with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed *them* with the ointment.
- 39 Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw *it*, he spake within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman *this is* that toucheth him: for she is a sinner.
- 40 And Jesus answering said unto him, Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And he saith, Master, say on.
- 41 There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty.
- 42 And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most?
- 43 Simon answered and said, I suppose that *he*, to whom he forgave most. And he

said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged.

44 And he turned to the woman, and said unto Simon, Seest thou this woman? I entered into thine house, thou gavest me no water for my feet: but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped *them* with the hairs of her head.

45 Thou gavest me no kiss: but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my feet.

46 My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment.

47 Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, *the same* loveth little.

48 And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven.

49 And they that sat at meat with him began to say within themselves, Who is this that forgiveth sins also?

50 And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.

### 3. Ps. 27:1, 4, 5, 11–14

1 The Lord *is* my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord *is* the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

4 One *thing* have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.

5 For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.

11 Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies.

12 Deliver me not over unto the will of mine enemies: for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty.

13 *I had fainted*, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

14 Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.

### 4. John 1:1–5, 10–14

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

- 2 The same was in the beginning with God.
- 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
- 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.
- 5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.
- 10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.
- 11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.
- 12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:
- 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
- 14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

#### 5. John 8:12

- 12 ¶ Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

#### 6. Ps. 82:3, 4, 6

- 3 Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy.
- 4 Deliver the poor and needy: rid *them* out of the hand of the wicked.
- 6 I have said, Ye *are* gods; and all of you *are* children of the most High.

#### 7. John 10:24–30

- 24 Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly.
- 25 Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me.
- 26 But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you.
- 27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:
- 28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.
- 29 My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and no *man* is able to

pluck *them* out of my Father's hand.

30 I and *my* Father are one.

## 8. I Cor. 12:31 and; 13:1–13

31 ... and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.

1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become *as* sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

2 And though I have *the gift of* prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

4 Charity suffereth long, *and* is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

8 Charity never faileth: but whether *there be* prophecies, they shall fail; whether *there be* tongues, they shall cease; whether *there be* knowledge, it shall vanish away.

9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.

10 But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

13 And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these *is* charity.

## 1. SH 362:1–12

1 **I**T is related in the seventh chapter of Luke's Gospel that Jesus was once the honored guest of a certain

3 Pharisee, by name Simon, though he was quite unlike

Simon the disciple. While they were at meat, an unusual incident occurred, as if to interrupt the scene  
6 of Oriental festivity. A “strange woman”  
came in. Heedless of the fact that she was debarred from such a place and such society, especially under the stern  
9 rules of rabbinical law, as positively as if she were a Hindu pariah intruding upon the household of a high-caste Brahman, this woman (Mary Magdalene, as she has  
12 since been called) approached Jesus.

## 2. SH 363:1–23

1 She bore an alabaster jar  
containing costly and fragrant oil, — sandal oil perhaps,  
3 which is in such common use in the East. Breaking  
the sealed jar, she perfumed Jesus' feet with the oil,  
wiping them with her long hair, which hung loosely  
6 about her shoulders, as was customary with women of her grade.

Did Jesus spurn the woman? Did he repel her adoration? No! He regarded her compassionately. Nor was this all. Knowing what those around him  
9 were saying in their hearts, especially his host,  
12 — that they were wondering why, being a prophet, the exalted guest did not at once detect the woman's immoral status and bid her depart, — knowing this, Jesus rebuked  
15 them with a short story or parable. He described two debtors, one for a large sum and one for a smaller, who were released from their obligations by their common  
18 creditor. “Which of them will love him most?” was the Master's question to Simon the Pharisee; and Simon replied, “He to whom he forgave most.” Jesus approved  
21 the answer, and so brought home the lesson to all, following it with that remarkable declaration to the woman, “Thy sins are forgiven.”

### 3. SH 366:30–23

30 If we would open their prison doors for the sick, we  
must first learn to bind up the broken-hearted. If we  
would heal by the Spirit, we must not hide the talent  
1 of spiritual healing under the napkin of its form, nor  
bury the *morale* of Christian Science in the grave-clothes  
3 of its letter. The tender word and Christian  
encouragement of an invalid, pitiful patience  
with his fears and the removal of them, are better than  
6 hecatombs of gushing theories, stereotyped borrowed  
speeches, and the doling of arguments, which are but so  
many parodies on legitimate Christian Science, aflame  
9 with divine Love.

Genuine  
healing

This is what is meant by seeking Truth, Christ, not  
“for the loaves and fishes,” nor, like the Pharisee, with  
12 the arrogance of rank and display of scholar-  
ship, but like Mary Magdalene, from the sum-  
mit of devout consecration, with the oil of gladness and  
15 the perfume of *gratitude*, with tears of repentance and  
with those hairs all numbered by the Father.

Gratitude  
and humility

A Christian Scientist occupies the place at this period  
18 of which Jesus spoke to his disciples, when he said: “Ye  
are the salt of the earth.” “Ye are the light  
of the world. A city that is set on an hill can-  
21 not be hid.” Let us watch, work, and pray that this salt  
lose not its saltness, and that this light be not hid, but  
radiate and glow into noontide glory.

The salt of  
the earth

### 4. SH 482:13–16, 19, 27

Question. — Is it important to understand these ex-  
planations in order to heal the sick?

15 Answer. — It is, since Christ is “the way” and the  
truth casting out all error.

Jesus was the highest human  
concept of the perfect man. He was inseparable from  
21 Christ, the Messiah, — the divine idea of God outside  
the flesh. This enabled Jesus to demonstrate his con-  
trol over matter. Angels announced to the Wisemen of  
24 old this dual appearing, and angels whisper it, through  
faith, to the hungry heart in every age.

27 Error will not expel error. Christian Science is the law  
of Truth, which heals the sick on the basis  
of the one Mind or God. It can heal in no  
30 other way, since the human, mortal mind so-called is not  
a healer, but causes the belief in disease.

Sickness  
erroneous

#### 5. SH 483:27–32

27 And Christian Science does honor God as  
no other theory honors Him, and it does this in the way  
of His appointing, by doing many wonderful works  
30 through the divine name and nature. One must fulfil  
one's mission without timidity or dissimulation, for to be  
well done, the work must be done unselfishly.