



Keeping a Holy
Lent #2
Almsgiving



Recap

- Fasting—something good, something noticeable, something that will pinch.
- Open us to Christ's love.
- Further us in God's forgiveness.
- Lead us into the Spirit's life.

Almsgiving

A wooden cross is the central focus, with a purple cloth draped over its horizontal beam. Atop the vertical post of the cross sits a crown of thorns. The background is a solid, dark blue-grey color.

- A traditional Lenten observance
- Luther's three conversions

What is Almsgiving?



- Almsgiving is not. . . .
 - a tithe
 - an offering
 - regular charitable giving

What is Almsgiving?

A wooden cross is centered in the image. A purple cloth is draped over the horizontal beam of the cross. At the top of the vertical post, there is a crown of thorns. The background is a solid dark blue color.

- Almsgiving is. . . .
 - giving beyond usual charity
 - focus on the poor

What is the Point?

A wooden cross is centered in the image. A crown of thorns is placed on top of the vertical post. A purple cloth is draped over the horizontal bar of the cross, with the ends hanging down. The background is a solid, dark blue color.

- Almsgiving is a specific form of fasting focused on wealth.

What is the Point?

A wooden cross is centered in the image. A crown of thorns is placed on top of the vertical post. A purple cloth is draped over the horizontal arm of the cross, with the ends hanging down. The background is a dark, solid color.

- Why?

- Repentance

- Detaching from the idol of money.

- Imitating God in his generosity.

What is the Point?

- Loving God and neighbour



A portrait of Martin Luther, a German theologian, is visible in the background. He is wearing a black cap and a dark robe, looking slightly to the right with a serious expression. The background is a dark, textured green.

Luther's Commendation

“Let us also be generous [as Abraham was], and let us open the door to poor brethren and receive them with a joyful countenance. If we are deceived now and then, well and good. In spite of this our good will is demonstrated to God, and the kind act...is not lost on Christ, in whose name we are generous.

A portrait of Martin Luther, a German theologian, philosopher, and reformer. He is depicted from the chest up, wearing a black cap and a dark, heavy robe. He has a serious expression and is looking slightly to the right of the viewer. The background is a dark, textured green.

Luther's Commendation

“Hence just as we should not intentionally and knowingly support the idleness of slothful people, so, when we have been deceived, we should not give up this eagerness to do good to others.”

How to Give Alms

A wooden cross is centered in the background. The cross is made of light-colored wood. A purple ribbon is tied around the horizontal bar of the cross, forming a large bow. At the top of the vertical post, there is a circular wreath made of dried twigs or branches. The background is a solid, muted blue-grey color.

- Good, noticeable, and pinchy.
- Anonymity (Matthew 6:3)
- Magnanimity (Matthew 26:12)
- Carelessly (Luke 6:34-35)