## The Offering IS Worship

Many churches treat the offering time more like an interruption FROM worship rather than an important part OF worship. We disagree. Every week we take up the offering. We never apologize for taking up an offering. We do this in part because Scripture admonishes believers to be generous.

We try to share with you what a gift here to our church accomplishes. We want you to know that your gifts matter. We can only do what we do because of your generosity. You and your generous gifts make this happen. The offering keeps us financially sound. Yet that is not reason enough to give this morning as important as that is.

Your giving during the offering time is first and foremost your worship to God. You give to God THROUGH this church but you are giving to God. Psalms 96 is a wonderful Psalm that directs praise and worship towards God. Verse 8 says it all about giving and worship when it states, "Give him the glory he deserves! Bring your offering and come to worship him." We worship what we adore and love. We give gifts to show our love to those we love. How much more should we give a worthy gift to show our love of God?

This morning we invite you to participate with us in worship. The worship of giving a gift to God. In the New Testament we are admonished that, "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

So our ushers are going to come forward for this part of our worship. We invited you to worship with us with your offering!