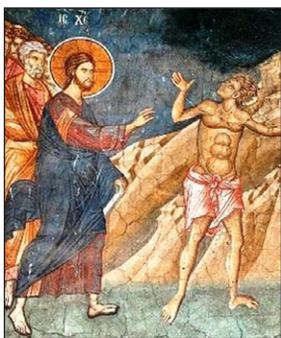




■ † Sixth Sunday of St. Luke

## Gratitude\*

### All Good Things Come From Our Lord



**A**fter he was healed, the Gadarene demoniac cleaved to the Lord and wished to remain with Him always.

Then, upon hearing His will, he went and preached throughout the whole city the good things he had received.

The Benefactor attracted him; His will became law for the recipient of the benefaction, and the man's tongue could not resist proclaiming what had been received from Him.

If only we kept in mind all the good things that we have received and are receiving from the Lord, there would be no ungrateful people among us. There would be no transgressors of His holy Will, nor would there be people who do not love Him more than all else.

Through baptism we are saved from our ancestral sin and all of its misfortune. In repentance we are washed from the sins that incessantly cling to us. Through God's Providence we are preserved from dangers that often are not visible to us, and we receive a direction for our life which is safer for us and favorable to our goals. Besides, all that we possess is from the Lord.

That is why we must cleave to the Lord with our whole soul, fulfil His Will in all things, and glorify His most holy Name—especially in our life and deeds—so that we might not

fall behind the Gadarene demoniac, who immediately proved himself to be so wise that he became an example worthy of everyone's imitation. □

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(\*) St. Theophan the Recluse, *Thoughts for Each Day of the Year According to the Daily Church Readings from the Word of God.*