

A Thanksgiving Message from the Pastor

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Give Thanks! That is the message for this time of November. We give thanks not only for the big blessings, but for the little every day blessings that so often go unnoticed as they fall between the cracks of our daily routine. Do you have shelter, food, clothing? Do you have the ability to be resourceful when you face a challenging situation? Have you reconciled with an estranged family member or friend? Have you performed a random act of kindness lately? Yes, these too are occasions for giving thanks, for a kind and forgiving heart is a gift from above.

During these times when many of us have to learn to live with less, we still have so much to be thankful for. When I step outside my door each morning to take a deep breath, the air is sweet and tinged with the autumn scent of earthy leaves and wood smoke and I feel renewed. When I receive a call or mail from a friend far away, my day is brighter. I find that when we add the gift of the little special moments, we end up with a beautifully woven tapestry of our life.

"Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One," a song goes. And during the month of November we add our thanks to that of the multitudes in our nation. Our thanks are addressed to the Holy One, to our God who is ruler of the universe, who cares for all creation, including the littlest sparrow.

As an immigrant to the United States, I am thankful for living in a place where there is freedom of religion and free speech. I am thankful to be here with you at Good Shepherd in Vermont, watching the divine spectacle of the seasons and giving praises to God.

Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Dagmar