

Thanksgiving, 2023

I love the season of Thanksgiving with its brilliant colours - of maple crimson, pumpkin orange and brilliant yellows that surround our world in this Maritime corner of Creation; the abundance of harvest, the gifts of sight and smell and taste that enhance our experience of Creation.

While the spirit of thanksgiving thrives throughout the year, Thanksgiving weekend helps us focus our gratitude.

With that in mind, I give thanks for each of you as you continue to be the Incarnation presence across the region.

I give thanks for each greeter, each music director, each choir member, each fixer-upper, each reader, each study group, each youth group, each Sunday school, each board member, each staff member, each worship leader who each work wrestles with scriptures to discern a word of hope and love in a time when fear and hate carry a loud voice across our country and world.

I give thanks for each act of Love and Compassion you have offered to the world - be it a plate of cookies, a phone call, a drive, a hug, sharing a cup of brew, emailing a politician or on a Zoom meeting.

I give thanks for you who continually speak truth to power calling for equality and justice. Specifically, in my home province of NB, I give thanks for you who speak truth to power in support of protection for trans students and 2LGBTQIA+.

With Spirit as our guide and companion, you are making the world a better place. The good news is that God is not done with us. God is up to something. We may not know what. We may not know how. Still, as we state in our Creed, "we believe in God, who has created and is creating."

So Happy Thanksgiving! Whether you gather with a feast of plenty around a table of many or whether you dine alone with leftovers, know that you are not alone. Spirit is with you and within you. For that we give thanks!

Elizabeth

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