



THANKSGIVING  
*Prayers*



*Judge each  
day not by the  
harvest you reap  
but by the seeds  
you sow.*

— William Arthur Ward

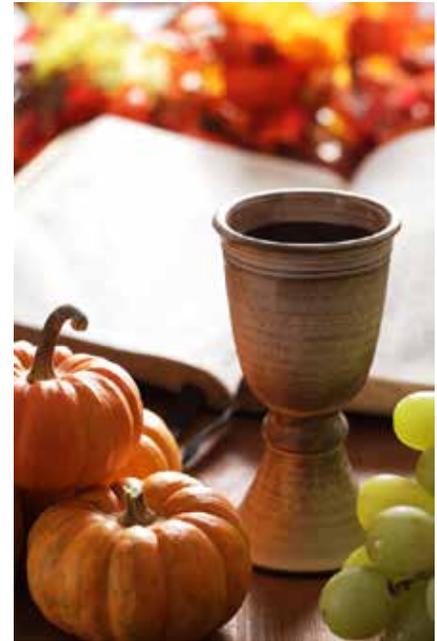
Greetings,

Our Lord, whose giving knows no bounds, teaches us to give thanks in all circumstances. At Thanksgiving, we set aside time specifically to give thanks for our blessings, in hopes that in so doing we will more readily express our gratitude every day. No matter where we find ourselves – around a table with family, in a room seated with strangers, at work when others are at rest, alone and content, or lonely despite the crowd – we stop to acknowledge the blessings of this life in the various forms they take.

Our hope is that these prayers will guide your devotion time in giving thanks. Feel free to read through them, not just on Thanksgiving Day but any time you seek to give thanks in all circumstances, for all blessings; sudden and unexpected, complicated and lovely, overflowing and abundant, today and every day.

Warmly in Christ,

Louise Rogers  
Associate Pastor for Congregational Care  
Westminster Presbyterian Church



## **PSALM 100**

*A psalm of thanksgiving.*

Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth!

Worship the Lord with gladness.

Come before him, singing with joy.

Acknowledge that the Lord is God!

He made us, and we are his.

We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him and praise his name.

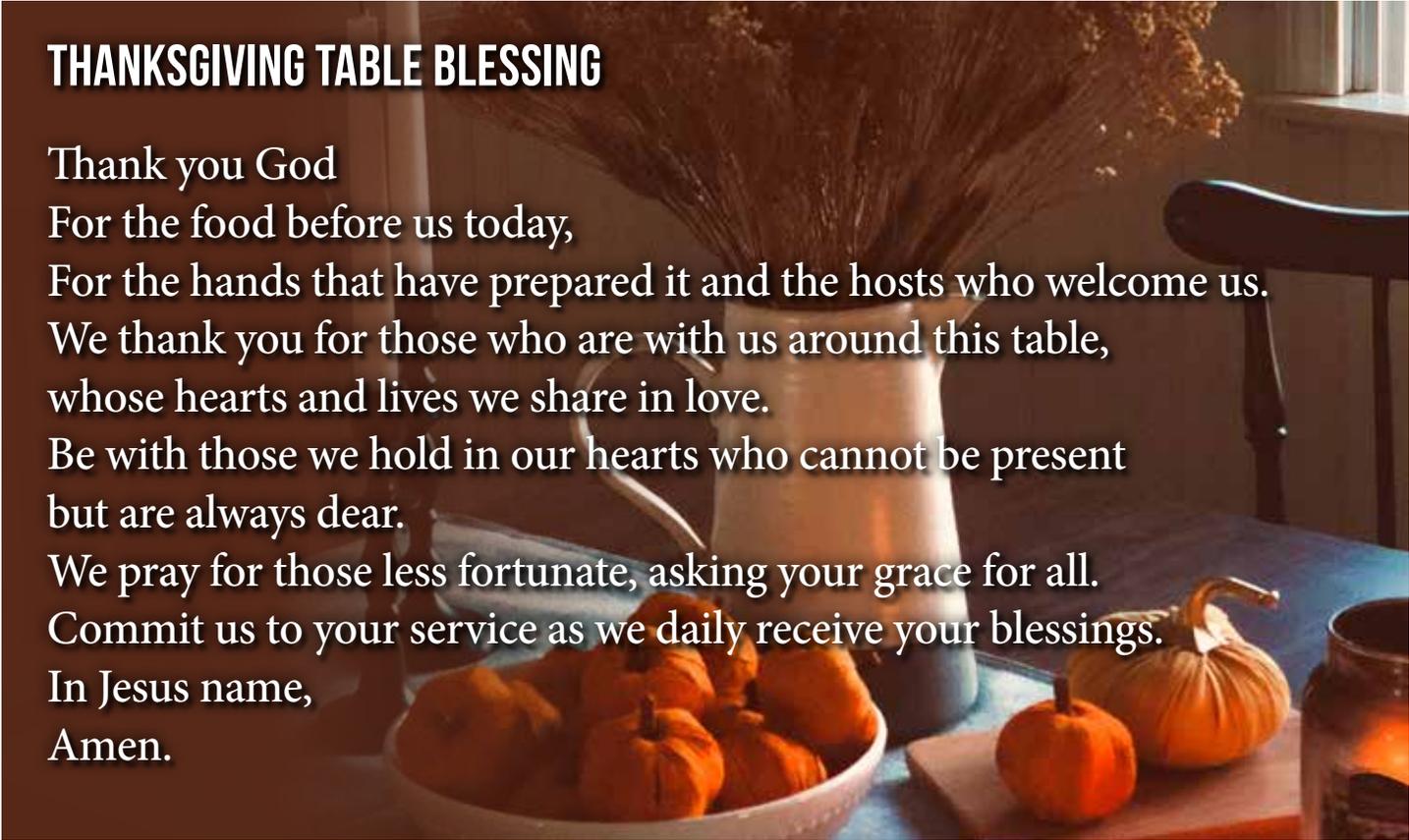
For the Lord is good.

His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness

continues to each generation. (NLT)

## THANKSGIVING TABLE BLESSING

Thank you God  
For the food before us today,  
For the hands that have prepared it and the hosts who welcome us.  
We thank you for those who are with us around this table,  
whose hearts and lives we share in love.  
Be with those we hold in our hearts who cannot be present  
but are always dear.  
We pray for those less fortunate, asking your grace for all.  
Commit us to your service as we daily receive your blessings.  
In Jesus name,  
Amen.



## **A CHILD'S GRATITUDE PRAYER**

Thank you for the world so sweet.

Thank you for the food we eat.

Thank you for the birds that sing.

Thank you, God, for everything.



## WE THANK THEE

*By Ralph Waldo Emerson*

For flowers that bloom about our feet,  
Father, we thank Thee.

For tender grass so fresh, so sweet,  
Father, we thank Thee.

For the song of bird and hum of bee,  
For all things fair we hear or see,  
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

For blue of stream and blue of sky,  
Father, we thank Thee.

For pleasant shade of branches high,  
Father, we thank Thee.

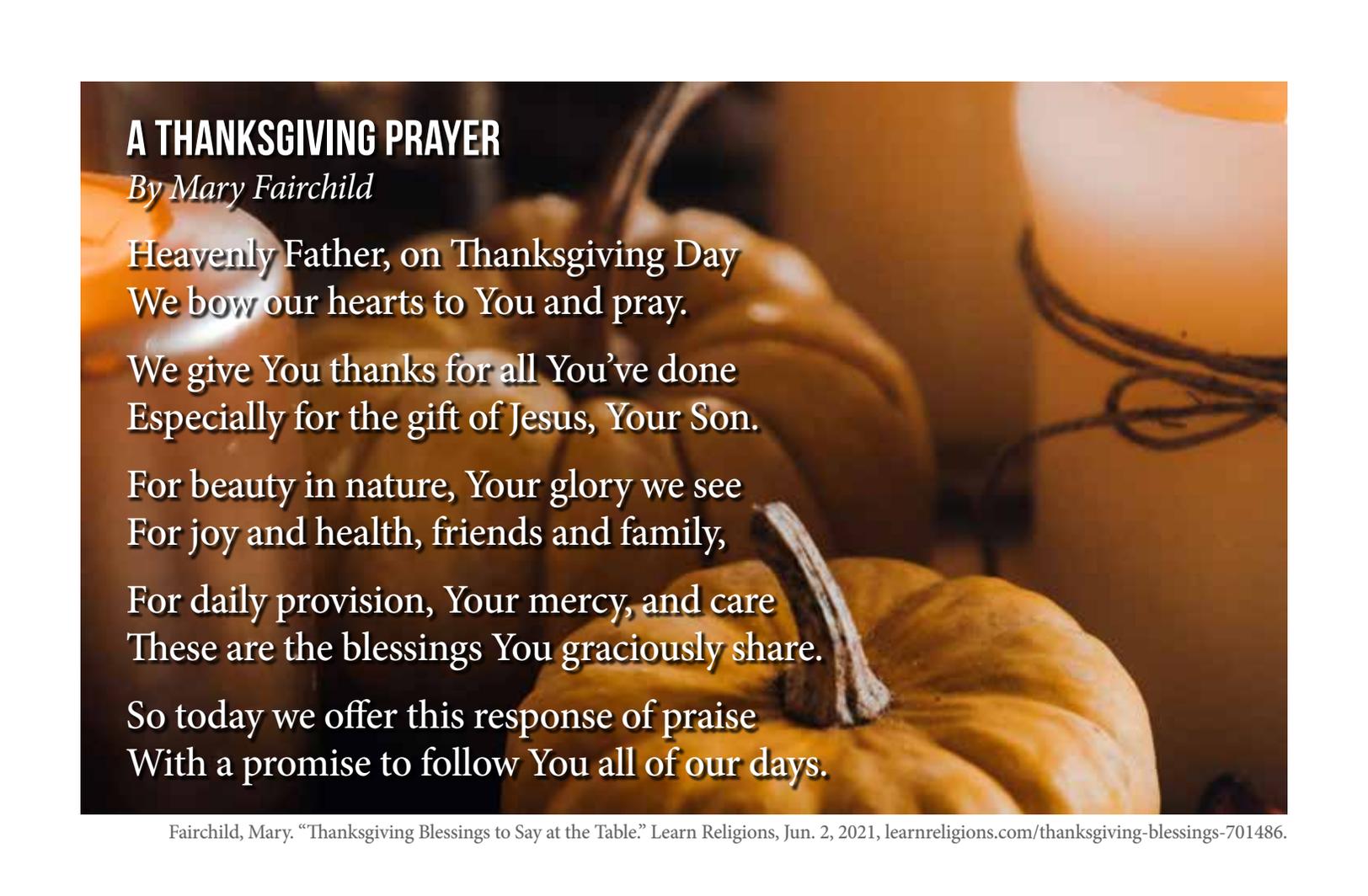
For fragrant air and cooling breeze,  
For beauty of the blooming trees,  
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

For this new morning with its light,  
Father, we thank Thee.

For rest and shelter of the night,  
Father, we thank Thee

For health and food,  
for love and friends,

For everything Thy goodness sends,  
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.



## A THANKSGIVING PRAYER

*By Mary Fairchild*

Heavenly Father, on Thanksgiving Day  
We bow our hearts to You and pray.

We give You thanks for all You've done  
Especially for the gift of Jesus, Your Son.

For beauty in nature, Your glory we see  
For joy and health, friends and family,

For daily provision, Your mercy, and care  
These are the blessings You graciously share.

So today we offer this response of praise  
With a promise to follow You all of our days.



## **MORAVIAN BLESSING**

Come, Lord Jesus, our guest to be

And bless these gifts

Bestowed by Thee.

And bless our loved ones everywhere,

And keep them in Your loving care.

Write something you are grateful for on each leaf.

Pray: Our leaves are full of so many reasons we are grateful this day. Let us continue knowing that our lives are full! Amen.



Beneath  
Thy  
Tender  
Care

O Lord My God, thank you for bringing this day to a close;  
Thank you for giving me rest in body and soul.  
Your hand has been over me and has guarded and preserved me.  
Forgive my lack of faith  
and any wrong that I have done today,  
and help me to forgive all who have wronged me.  
Let me sleep in peace under your protection,  
And keep me from the temptations of darkness,  
Into your hands I commend my loved ones  
and All who dwell in this house;  
I commend to you my body and soul  
O God, your holy name be praised.  
Amen.

*- Dietrich Bonhoeffer*



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