

## **Beecher Life November 20, 2022**

### ***Prayer for today***

Eternal God, you sent Jesus to rule over all things, and made us servants in your kingdom. By your Spirit, empower us to love the unloved and to minister to all in need. Then at last bring us to your eternal realm where we may worship and adore you and be welcome into your everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

### ***Upcoming events:***

- ✚ November 26, Hanging the Greens 10am in the sanctuary.
- ✚ December 10 Ring the Bell, 10am – 8pm. Sign-up sheet is on the usher's table!
- ✚ December 11 a Chili Christmas. Please bring your favorite chili to share!

***November Birthdays & Anniversaries:*** 24<sup>th</sup> Jeri Smith

### ***Prayer List***

Please pray for: the leaders of our nation, the churches of our presbytery, Sherry Kuster & her father, Gene Crabtree, Dori Martz's sister, Dick Ernest, Madoline Siebert, Anita Trennepohl, Charity Vanosdol, Collin Schmidt, Aaron Smith, Jerome Roell, Beth Daugherty, Mary Schulte, Paula, Pete Eckerle, Bruce's uncle Joe, Roy Heitman, Jerry Henry, Mike & Hila Illing, the Stryker's, Margie Oelker, Bob Oelker, Alicia Smith, Daphne House, Ry Wessels, Rick Lowes, Jackie Rhodes, the Clearinghouse, Glen Wiesmann, Phillip Smith, Steve Wessels, Terry Wilson, Deborah McLaughlin, Jim Thompson, Jeri Smith, the congregation of Beecher Presbyterian Church.

### ***Question for Reflection***

Jesus asks God to forgive those who crucified him, saying, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." What does it mean to offer forgiveness to others before they are aware of their offense?

## ***Thought Provoker***

Let our aim be to please our dear Lord perfectly in little things, and to attain a spirit of childlike simplicity and dependence. Jean Nicolas Grou

## ***Minute for Mission***

*Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One ...*

Thursday as families and friends gather around the holiday table filled with food wafting with the scent of nostalgia, they will pause to give thanks. Perhaps some will be thankful that they are able to gather safely enjoy a boisterous Thanksgiving meal that didn't happen in 2020, due to Covid. Perhaps some will be grateful that they were able to find the ingredients needed for Grandma's special stuffing, considering a breakdown in supply chains that have led to bare shelves. Perhaps some will be praising God that a loved one is with them after facing a life-threatening illness.

But perhaps, too, there are those whose Thanksgiving will not be reminiscent of a Norman Rockwell painting. There are those this day who are sitting down to a meager meal, those watching the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade alone and those whose eyes gaze longingly at the now-empty chair.

In our lives there are seasons of plenty and seasons of want. There are Thanksgivings when children's voices fill the air of an aging church. There are Thanksgivings where their voices are nowhere to be heard. There are holidays where laughter and food abound. Then there are holidays where both seem scarce. I have had Thanksgivings of both plenty and want and I know personally how hard it is to be thankful when everything seems to be falling apart. Yet, even in our darkest times, we are to remember to whisper our broken "thank yous," for God is not done with us nor has God ever forgotten us.

The apostle Paul once said, "I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need." And that secret was that no matter what life brought, Paul knew he could count on God to give him strength.

In plenty and in want, no matter what this day is like for you and your family, remember that God is with you, providing the strength you need — always.

*Donna Frischknecht Jackson, Editor, Presbyterians Today*



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