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*But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.
Matthew 13.16 (NRSV)*

Thanksgiving 2026

My Dear Siblings in Christ,

As I write this Thanksgiving letter, we have only just concluded our Synod five days ago. It seems serendipitous that I am called to write this letter on the heels of what, to me, was a beautiful time of conversation, prayer, and the promise of great hope. Our Diocese is, by the very nature of our being, a body called to prayer, faith, and sharing those prayers and faith with the wider world.

Our call to Revival is indeed one which will be a gift and a grace to the people and communities around us, but it will also be the same in our own lives, families, and churches. As we are more intentional about seeking, seeing, and serving Christ right in our midst we will find a renewed energy, a greater strength, and a stronger recognition of the many blessings God has placed right before us. Our eyes will indeed begin see God's blessings, and our ears to hear the same. When we energetically strive to walk with Christ in God's world, the Holy Spirit will share with us wisdom, beauty, hope, and challenges which we wouldn't have been prepared for in the past.

The Revival we are called to participate in will be a Grand Thanksgiving as we energetically participate in the cultivation of the ground God is giving us as our field, as we plant seeds of hope through new relationships and prayer, as we tend to those relationships, and then, when the time is right, share with the Spirit as we go out into the fields white and ready for harvesting.

Like this Harvest Season, there may be times when circumstances threaten to slow us down and prevent the work we are called to do but we will continue to plough ahead, trusting in God's timing and knowing that, when the time is right, we will indeed see the Harvest God is intending for our Season of Revival right here in our Diocese, and possibly even in the world beyond.

I encourage you to take extended moments and times of offering your Thanksgiving to God. We have all been invited to prepare the Thanksgiving Feast table – for our own families and churches, and the communities beyond. We are called to remember God's wonder, abundance, love and grace not just in the secular season of Thanksgiving but throughout the year as well. God is filling our barns to overflowing. Now we are called to share the harvest with all whom we meet!

May God continue to bless and guide you and all who you love and serve through this Thanksgiving celebration and on into our Season of Revival!

Bishop Rachael