

PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

1900 Nicollet Avenue
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Pastoral Prayer
the Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Sartain
Executive Minister

November 27, 2011

God of new beginnings, we give you thanks for this Advent season dawning and pregnant with hope. Children eagerly anticipate Christmas morning. A child inside each of us recalls the wonder, excitement and anticipation of something good waiting to be unwrapped, some good gift ready for us, something chosen with us in mind and something that will be ours ... when the time is right.

We need that feeling again, O God, and that ability to trust that goodness awaits. We need to see again with the eyes of our soul that before us stands a mysterious gift, wrapped or shrouded, but soon to be revealed. Help us in that long wait. The gift might be our healing. The gift might be love at last. The gift might be opportunity.

The gift might be contentment. The gift might be an awakening. The gift might be finally the ability to let go of that grudge we've held far too long. The gift might be self-acceptance. There awaits for us some spiritual gift, something sent from you, with us in mind and it is perhaps not what we wanted but it is what you in love saw we needed most.

This Advent and always, inspire us to live as though something good awaits us. Enable us to live with eager anticipation. Bless us to live as though each new day draws us nearer to something holy and miraculous about to be revealed, something chosen in love for us, by you.

Amen.