



# HOUSTON VISITING CHRISTIAN SCIENCE NURSE SERVICE

November 2020

## Happy Thanksgiving

Gratitude is a hallmark of all customs, cultures, and nations. It replaces selfishness with selflessness, causing us to think of, and care for, others.

Thanksgiving—giving thanks—is so much larger and longer-lasting than a day of feasting. It is the humble acknowledging and yielding to God, the source of all good—no matter what challenges may seem to engulf us.



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Expressing gratitude for a pivotal Union Army victory at Gettysburg, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed November 26, 1863, as a national day of Thanksgiving. His proclamation reads in part:

“And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.”

(written by William H. Seward, Secretary of State, and approved by President Lincoln)

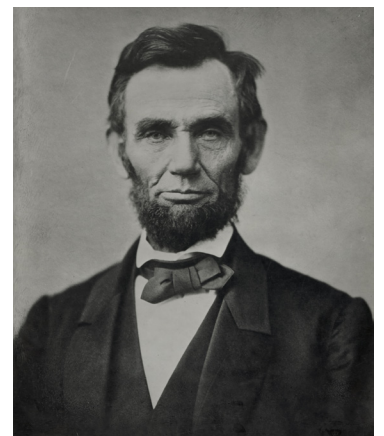


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Thanksgiving Day reminds us to continually proclaim God’s love for us—Her adored children—which She shows by feeding the hungry, receptive heart. As Mrs. Eddy beautifully writes:

“Whatever inspires with wisdom, Truth, or Love — be it song, sermon, or Science — blesses the human family with crumbs of comfort from Christ’s table, feeding the hungry and giving waters to the thirsty.” (*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, 234:4)

Christian Science nurses, reflecting God’s love for Her own, bless “the human family with crumbs of comfort from Christ’s table.” They give “waters” of rest and peace to brothers and sisters seeking practical care. And while their ministry lovingly, tenderly, addresses the human need—bandaging, mobility needs, meal preparation, obstetrics cases, and much more—they understand that man’s identity is now and forever spiritual, no matter what the human scene presents.

Sometimes the dear ones to whom Christian Science nurses attend may, like our ancestors who endured that seemingly endless Civil War, be tempted to fear they are caught in circumstances beyond their control.

Such a fear—and, really, any and all fear felt by any and all of us—can be met and overcome by our faithful service to God and grateful love for God:

“Beloved brethren, to-day I extend my heart-and-hand-fellowship to the faithful, to those whose hearts have been beating through the mental avenues of mankind for God and humanity; and rest assured you can never lack God’s outstretched arm so long as you are in His service.” (*Message for 1901*, 1:1-6)

“Gratitude and love should abide in every heart each day of all the years.”  
(*Church Manual*, 60:15-17)

Amen!

## Meet the Board

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We would welcome a board presence from churches not currently represented.

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“Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee”  
*Christian Science Hymn 324*