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People of the Light

"My refuge, my fortress, my God in whom I trust." Psalm 91:2

Friends,

That old time change, eh! I *always* love the "fall back" part of the year... it feels like I stole an hour from the Keeper of Time. What a precious thing it is to be handed an hour!

But the falling back is also a reminder, isn't it, that the darker days are coming. And, with the other darknesses we are dealing with these days – the ones which seem to clutch at our throats the moment we wake up in the morning – the winter dark might feel heavier than usual this year.

Which is why we are so blessed to be people of the light. Remember how it is put in the gospel of John? "The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:5).

This morning I was dipping into a lovely daily meditation book which a friend recently gave me – what a beautiful gift! And I read these words. They touched my soul, and shone a little light there. Maybe they will also speak to you. They are by the Roman Catholic priest and theologian, Henri Nouwen:

People who have come to know the joy of God do not deny the darkness, but they choose not to live in it. They claim that the light that shines in the darkness can be trusted more than the darkness itself and that a little bit of light can dispel a lot of darkness. They point each other to flashes of light here and there, and remind each other that they reveal the hidden but real presence of God. They discover that there are people who heal each other's wounds, forgive each other's offenses, share their possessions, foster the spirit of community, celebrate the fits they have received, and live in constant anticipation of the full manifestation of God's glory. (From *the Return of the Prodigal Son* in *You Are the Beloved: Daily Meditations for Spiritual Living*, Henri J. M. Nouwen).

So, here is our mission, friends – should we wish to accept it! Look for those flashes of light... those precious God-moments... and then point them out to others.

That's how we live in faith, and show the way.

Grace to you and peace,

Kate

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*"Our relationship with God and each other strengthens us, and helps make the world a better place.
We welcome and include **everyone** into congregational life."*

