



February 20, 2019

A PRAYER OF THANKS FOR BEAUTY AND BRAVERY

Let us now praise God for acts of beauty and bravery.

Thank you, God, for the nurse who spoke a kind word and took time to tell a joke before using the needle she carried, even though she was probably busy and had many more rooms and needles to go. And thank you for the couple who helped a family of refugees to settle in a new country with blankets and winter coats. And thank you for the neighbors who learned American Sign Language in order to communicate with a baby who was born to a couple on their street.

And thank you for the man who works for the MBTA and does his job with such infectious joy when the job could so easily be done without it; and for the people who draw fun pictures and messages on city sidewalks; and for the painter who spent many hours honing her craft so that we could see a tree, or a tall building, or a human face in a way we never had before.

Thank you for blood donors, school bus drivers, unpaid interns at non-profits, and teenagers who know more than you think there'd be to know about their favorite book series, or sports team, or musical. Thank you for drivers who volunteer to pick people up at 6:00 a.m., and for home cooks who deliver homemade soup to someone who is having chemotherapy, or who is grieving the loss of a beloved pet.

Thank you for friends who make up excuses to drop by for a visit with someone who is trying to get used to a smaller home, or being sober, or living alone.

Thank you for people who don't need you to explain yourself, or to look your best, or even to use proper language, but love you just as you are.

Thank you, God, for all of the beauty and bravery in the world.
This is all your doing, isn't it?

Peace,

Rev. Dr. Matthew Wooster
Senior Minister