

*"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior." ~ Luke 1:46-47*

Dear Friend in Christ,

I write to you in the season of Advent, a great time of preparation in the anticipation of the advent of Christ.

As we near the close of our annual stewardship season, I am also writing with a warm and heartfelt invitation. Our theme this year—Tell Out My Soul—has called us to reflect on the ways our lives proclaim God's goodness. Mary's song in the Magnificat reminds us that gratitude is not only something we feel; it is something we express, something we "tell out" through our choices, our generosity, and our hope for the future.

Many in our congregation have already responded with pledges, and we are deeply grateful. Each commitment helps Good Shepherd plan faithfully for the coming year—strengthening our worship, supporting our outreach, nurturing children and youth, sustaining music and pastoral care, and empowering us to serve our neighbors with compassion.

At this time, we have not yet received a pledge from you, and I hope you will consider adding your voice to this shared song of thanksgiving. Your pledge—of any amount—matters. It is an act of faith and gratitude, a way of telling out your soul's trust in God and your belief in the ministry we do together.

If you have already sent in your pledge, please accept our sincere thanks. If it was sent more than a week or so ago, please consider letting us know in case we have somehow missed it. If not, I invite you to take a moment to return your pledge card or make your pledge online. We have included a pledge card in case it is helpful and you can also pledge online or by contacting the office.

Our parish's strength comes from the whole community offering what they can. I hope you will join us in this season by making your pledge and helping us continue to "tell out" the good news of God's love in Dunedin.

With appreciation for you and for the ministry we share,

*The Rev. Whitney Burton*

Rector, Church of the Good Shepherd

