



Dear Friends,

Here's a question for you: *What's the most valuable thing in your life?*

You might say "family" or "friends." You might say "faith" or "love," "justice" or "joy" – and you'd be right, of course. Each of these is a priceless gift from God.

But there's more to life than value, isn't there? We see it in the faces of family and friends, glowing in acts of love and justice, we glimpse it through generosity and celebration. When we see it, we smile and say, "Ah, look! How wonderful! How beautiful!"

And there it is: one of the most valuable things in our lives is *beauty*. God's beauty. Creation's beauty. The lovely, radiant goodness of the world.

Here at Christ Church, we give thanks for this beauty – and aspire to make something beautiful together. The beauty of the Gospel in action. The beauty of Scripture and preaching. The beauty of singing together, learning together, and serving together, from the healing ministry of the Order of St. Luke to our feeding ministry, "Take, Eat" to so many others. *Ah, look! How wonderful! How beautiful!*

We're even improving the physical beauty of our property! The parking lot was resurfaced in late summer, and rainwater runoff will be improved with work to the westside (parking lot side) gutters this fall. Keep an eye out for these improvements.

Over the next few weeks, we'll be having a church-wide campaign about how we each invest each year in this beautiful community, financially and otherwise. How we do so with boldness and imagination. And on October 18, we'll celebrate this campaign with a special coffee hour. Mark your calendars – and start thinking about what's most beautiful to you about Christ Church. We're planning to show off our shared favorites, holding a "Beautiful Things" coffee hour. Let us know what your most "Beautiful Things" are so that we can share them!

Thank you again for all the ways you make God's dream visible, gorgeous. Let's keep making something beautiful together!

Yours in Christ,

Peter

p.s. This giving season, you're invited to practice beauty in all kinds of ways – and not just with your checkbook. The enclosed "30-Day Beauty Challenge" offers simple, daily prompts to notice beauty and grow in gratitude, kindness, and joy. Give it a try!