

Dear Friends,

We have been watching the snow all winter. We have seen it blow; making it difficult to see any distance. There has been ice that created difficulty in getting around. It has been quite a winter as we have set records for snowfall. It has been a long winter and we look forward to spring.

In the midst of this winter, we live with the promise of green grass and tulips. We know that the snow will melt and there will be blooming flowers. Winter may seem long, but we know that spring is coming.

Winter can creep into our spiritual lives. There are times when all seems barren and our hearts are cold and there seems to be little growth. God works in the winters of our lives. It may not be easily visible, but God is bringing forth new life.

I so appreciate the words of a song, "Hymn of Promise".

*In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

*There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

*In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity,
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

Yes, it is winter but God is at work in the world and in our lives. He is working to see His promises fulfilled. There is hope in the barrenness of winter – it is something that God alone can see. That is a promise we can count on!

In Hope,

Chaplain Sandy

Chaplain Sandy Anenson