



AN
ORDER OF WORSHIP
of
FAREWELL SERVICE
on
SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 29
1929

Dedicated to
REVEREND WILL ASHLEY HAWLEY
Whose Ministry to the
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH of SPENCERPORT, N. Y.

Began on
August 1, 1926 and closed December 29, 1929

"The Lord Bless You and Keep You for Evermore"

PASTORAL LETTER

THE PARSONAGE

December 29, 1929.

My dear Friends,

The termination of a ministry is always a sad occasion. It is sad for minister and people alike. We both think of the days we have been privileged to spend together. Days when friendships were made and the more securely bound as the days have passed. I am happy to call you friends, and let me assure you that though I am leaving you I am not forsaking friendship, I shall ever cherish it and pray I may be worthy of your confidence. No minister ever had more loyal friends than has been my privilege.

Soon a New Year will dawn for us, thus I wish to send my greetings at this happy season. May the new year be a truly happy year for every one of you. One day we sing our joyful praises to the born King. Just a week later a new calendar goes on the wall and we cross another milestone of time.

It is not for nothing that life makes this provision. What could be better than that after we have experienced the joys of Christmas we should have an opportunity to put into effect the ideals of that day? Christmas is the day of joy; the new year that follows is the opportunity to give joy to the world.

What a splendid thing it would be, if each one of us would try and carry the spirit throughout the year. If we would rise each morning feeling that it is Christ's day and let every greeting be as joyous as that of Christmas our own lives would be full, and others would share that blessing.

So as I say good-bye I covet that spirit for us all. Let us make Christ king of our lives and allow Him to reign without a rival. Words fail me to express to you my feeling of thankfulness for your loyalty, comradeship and affection. The memories of the days I have been privileged to spend among you will grow dearer and sweeter as the years increase. Always there will be a warm place in my heart for this church and its people. God bless you everyone and grant unto you His peace.

Yours in Christ's service,

Will Ashley Hawley.

We live in deeds, not words;
In thoughts, not breaths;
In feelings, not in figures on the dial.
Life counts time by heart throbs;
He lives most who thinks most,
Feels the noblest, acts the best.

"We know not where His islands lift their fringed palms in air,
We only know we cannot drift beyond His love and care."

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