
HOLY HELPS

THEME: THANKSGIVING

THE FIRST THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION

The proclamation was made by Governor Bradford in 1623. The Pilgrims of Plymouth didn't have much, but they possessed great gratitude and it was upon this very spirit that America was built. The proclamation stated:

"Hear ye, hear ye all ye Pilgrims, Inasmuch as the great father has given us this year an abundant harvest of Indian corn, wheat, peas, squashes and garden vegetables, and has made the forests to abound with game and the sea with fish and clams, and in as much as he has protected us from the raids of the savages, has spared us from pestilence and disease, has granted us freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience; now I, your magistrate, do proclaim that all ye Pilgrims, with your wives and ye little ones, do gather at ye meeting house, on ye hill, between the hours of 9 and 12 in the day time, on Thursday November ye 29th of the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and twenty three there to listen to ye pastor and render thanksgiving to ye Almighty God for all His blessings."

Thanksgiving always reminds us of the first pilgrims, and that is what life is, a pilgrimage. Someone has said that a fugitive is one who is running from home; a vagabond is one who has no home; a stranger is one away from home; and a pilgrim is one on his way home! I am so glad that I am on my way home. And I am a very thankful pilgrim!

JdonJ