

Today, we thank You, God

For our families and friends

Even if we have our troubles.

We give thanks to You, God, for the time we can spend together,

Because we know that time will not be forever

We thank You for the unconditional love shared at these times

And the ability to remember those we have lost.

We thank You for the traditions that continue to be passed from generation to generation

Furthering our connections with those we love

We thank you for the weather,

Which allows us to reverently reflect on our lives.

And we thank you for the colors changing in the world around us.

The bright yellows, reds, and oranges that look like the world is submerged in fire.

But the colors also bring such beauty, such happiness.

They allow us to make changes in our own lives

Bettering our connections and relationships with loved ones and the world around us.

Walking outside you can smell the air, fresh with rain from the past night.

We can hear the crunching of the leaves under foot.

Lord we thank you for these sounds, smells, and colors that help us feel at home.

We thank you for the activities during this time that bring us closer to family

Activities like baking, nature walks, and hearing the stories that always start with “when I was a  
kid” from our older relatives

We thank you for showing us the birds that start to fly south for the comfort and warmth that area

brings.

Watching the birds fly south gives us the opportunity for gratitude, knowing we feel comfort in our lives.

We may feel sorrow, even when there are traditions passed down because we remember the ones who've gone

The ones who loved this time more than we'll ever know.

So Lord, bless us with the ability to recognize all you give us

And the ability to feel gratitude for all our family and friends provide.