



**Written in Honor of the 75<sup>th</sup> Year of the  
Presbyterian Peace Fellowship**

**Bequest**

His worldly goods were minimal,  
rough woolen robe, a staff perhaps,  
worn sandals for his feet,  
plus – at the utter last – a jagged,  
sweat-and-blood-stained crown.  
No more – there was none –  
and there could have been no less.

Yet one further, fuller legacy was spoken of  
that night before he left the upper room.  
“My peace I leave with you.”  
He told them. “My peace I give to you.”  
And in so doing entrusted all who follow him,  
who seek to set their feet into the ways he walked,  
with this most gracious gift.

A gift of soul, a certain blessedness of spirit  
that arose from the assurance, above all,  
of a supreme divine benevolence,  
a certain gracefulness of acting,  
speaking, being, that reached out in new  
and gentle ways of welcoming and trust,  
full of promise for the future.

A gift also of flesh and bone and blood,  
of high purpose and of challenge to be met.  
A call to share that rich inheritance of peace,  
to work to open avenues toward a world where  
neighbor lives with neighbor, tribe with tribe  
and clan with clan, in harmony, as community,  
seeking, above all else, the welfare of the whole,  
the prospering and common-wealth of  
this vast and diverse family of God.

J. Barrie Shepherd,  
Honorary Co-Chair,  
Endowment 75 Campaign

**75 Years!**

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