Devotion, Week of November 1, 2026

Rev. Jeanne Simpson

I am at the lake this week and the leaf colors are just incredible. I love the way every so often a deep red one appears among the yellows and oranges. I've always thought it fascinating that these are in fact, the real colors of the leaves. The trees are green when they're processing chlorophyll, but once the season is over, they lose that green and go back to what their native colors really are. I think that may be one of God's humorous gifts to us.

It makes me wonder what "camouflage" we wear, and what our core personalities really look like. Are we calm and pastel spring colors, bright and raucous summer colors, warm and earthy fall colors, or clear and cool winter colors? I like to think I'm like fall. I'm not much of a calm person, or a clear-headed winter person, but at times I am raucous. But the colors that just give me great joy or those oranges and deep reds and browns and yellows of the fall. I'm at home with them more than any of the others. So the fall, when it finally gets cooler, when I can have a fire, when hot chocolate tastes so good, when I can snuggle under a blanket and watch UGA football, is when I am at my best. I think God gives us all these seasons to create wonder and awe at the creation of this world we are blessed to live in. I love going outside to see what is new in each season. I recently bought mums so I could watch the yellow, orange, and burgundy blooms open. Soon I will start looking for my winter treasures to bloom or produce berries – Christmas cactus, amaryllis, holly, and winter camellias.

I hope you will take time to enjoy the leaves and the crisp air as we move toward Thanksgiving. I give thanks for each of you every day and am so grateful for our times of feasting and worshipping together.

Jeanne