



A PLEDGE FOR GRATEFUL LIVING

In thanksgiving for life, I pledge
to overcome the illusion of ENTITLEMENT
by reminding myself that everything is gift
and, thus, to live GRATEFULLY.

In thanksgiving for life, I pledge
to overcome my GREED,
that confuses wants with needs,
by trusting that enough for all our needs is given to us
and to share GENEROUSLY
what I so generously receive.

In thanksgiving for life, I pledge
to overcome APATHY
by waking up to the opportunities
that a given moment offers me
and so to respond CREATIVELY to every situation.

In thanksgiving for life, I pledge
to overcome VIOLENCE, all of which is rooted in fear,
by observing that fighting violence by violence
leads to more violence and death
and, thus, to foster life by acting NON-VIOLENTLY.

In thanksgiving to life, I pledge
to overcome FEAR
by seeing in what I might otherwise fear,
the opportunity to cultivate courageous TRUST IN LIFE
and so to lay the foundation for a peaceful future.

~ Brother David Steindl-Rast