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4 May, 2020

Ramadan Mubarak (Blessed Ramadan)

"My help comes from God, the maker of heaven and earth." Psalm 121:1

Dear Ones,

I have been invited by my friend, Ali Chahbar of the *London Muslim Mosque*, to send a message with the good people of his community. Like all Muslims, they are observing the holy month of Ramadan, abstaining from all food and water during daylight hours. This discipline is observed by all the faithful (except the sick or pregnant), and serves to focus their attention on spiritual growth, charity and community. It is a beautiful thing - and really hard!

In my message to them, I would truly like to be able to share greetings from members of Huron Shores United Church. One of the sadnesses for them this year is not being able to observe the traditional nightly gathering called *iftar* to break the fast. Like our potluck dinners, or family feasts, *iftar* is more than a meal. It is almost a sacrament.

I invite you to send me a greeting or word or two of encouragement that I might include in my message. Imagine feeling alone - separated from family and friends at a holy time - but knowing that others, strangers far away, are thinking of you. It would mean a lot to me if I were feeling alone!

I can't send messages from everyone, and doing this won't appeal to everyone in our community of faith. But if you feel moved to respond, please send the message directly to me, rather than using 'Reply' to this message - we don't want to flood Janna with Kate's mail!

Thank you!

Grace to you, and peace,

Kate

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