God, Each Day You Give is Precious
A Hymn for Organ Donors and Families
BEACH SPRING  8.7.8.7 D ("God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending")

God, each day you give is precious; it’s a joyful thing to live!
We are stewards of the wonders of these bodies that you give.
In our heartbeats, in our breathing, in our walking, in our sight,
We are blessed to be a blessing, and your grace is our delight.

Yet when tragedy is sudden, when we’re faced with pain and death,
When a body is too broken to receive another breath,
When it seems that none can cheer us, when a loved one is too ill,
In these times when death is near us, life becomes more precious still.

We are grateful for the vision of the ones who have prepared:
Who have made the firm decision that, in death, life must be shared,
For when earthly bodies fail them, as they’re welcomed into heaven,
Others here will know a blessing from the life these saints have given.

God, we thank you for the families who, in saying their good-byes,
Seek to end their neighbors’ suffering, giving hope and changing lives—
And for resurrection glory, we give thanks and praises, too.
Death can never end our story, for you’ll make us whole and new.

We are made to make a difference, we are made to laugh and dance,
So we thank you for each person who receives a second chance.
For they know that life is precious; they can see another dawn.
They are blessed to be a blessing as the joy of life goes on.

Local churches promoting organ donation have permission for free use of this hymn.
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Hymn Note for “God, Each Day You Give is Precious”

The Need Is Real: Here are some important facts about donation:
- 115,000 people in the United States are waiting for a life-saving transplant and nearly 4,000 live right here in New Jersey.
- Nationwide, 20 people die each day waiting for a life-saving transplant.
- Every day, 3 NJ residents are added to the waiting list.
- 1 organ and tissue donor can save 8 lives and restore health to over 75 others.
- Learn more and register to be an organ and tissue donor at www.NJSharingNetwork.org

Most religions in the United States either officially support organ and tissue donation or support the individual choices of their members. Donation is viewed as an act of compassion and generosity.

Learn more at www.NJSharingNetwork.org/religious-views

Hymn writer Carolyn Winfrey Gillette and her husband Bruce are the co-pastors of the Limestone Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, Delaware. She has written over 250 hymns that have been published by Baptist, Catholic, Christian Reformed, Community of Christ, Episcopal, Lutheran, Presbyterian, United Church of Canada, United Methodist churches and ecumenical groups. Carolyn has been a chaplain for a hospital and several hospices. She is grateful for suggestions for this hymn from Bruce Gillette (he has served on a hospital ethics committee), hospital Chaplains Tim Rodden and Sister Julian Wilson and ethicist Christian Iosso. This hymn is dedicated to the memory of Roy Timmer, a faithful Christian, a wonderful friend and an organ donor who helped many people.