## **WORDS**

by: Pati Rader 12/17/23

The same words are spoken.

but the meaning has changed.

Some words hold memories,

Connected with a name.

Words that were meant to help,

may be unopened on a shelf,

Joining other cards and letters,

They were sent to make one better.

The words have not changed,
But they don't feel the same.
In time they take on new meanings,
Even through the deepest grieving.
Words cannot stop being shared,
From those who deeply care.

Those words that were so easy then,

Can be hard to say again.

But holding onto yesterday,

without looking at today,

can leave little room for words anew
that are being spoken to you.

Speak those words again with intentionality
As you speak new life into today's reality.
The cherished memories of years gone by,
Will never leave you or try to hide.
Receiving words from those around you,
Can lift you up as love surrounds you.

And when the time feels right to share,
Your words to others will show you care.
Words can be shared wherever you are,
They carry a message near and far.
Your words, those you were avoiding,
Can now be a gift that you are bringing.

Share the words that were hard to hear,
speak them out loud and clear.
For when you have a word to share,
You can also add a prayer.
For others who are just at the start
May need your words to reach their heart.