

New Year

On a January day on a winter walk
I stopped near a dune for some ocean talk.
The wind blew the sand into my face
Making delicate patterns on the dune like lace.

Waves rolled in and retreated back out
Once again I wondered what it's all about.
Birds fought the wind as they dove for fish
As I spoke with God about my wish.

Maybe a wish is not the right word.
Would a prayer, a plea be more readily heard?
A prayer of thanksgiving for another year past.
A prayer of hope for the new year at last.

A prayer for strength, for faith to renew
A grateful prayer for the beauty in view.
So thankful for family and friends by my side
Whether present or not, felt every stride.

Thankful for love, the kindness the caring
Poured out freely with all of your sharing.
It's clear to see I am blessed beyond measure
Thank you Lord for all those I so treasure.

— *Judith Hahs* —