

*My prayer is around the theme welcome. The origin of the word welcome is wilcuma: a kindly greeting, to greet gladly, one whose coming suits another's desire and pleasure. Wil is to desire, pleasure, choice Cuma is guest, related to cuman to come.*

Loving God, You wait for us with wide open arms to come

Come, an invitation to come. A welcome.

You welcome us, all of us and every part of us.

To come, like a spring well calling us to come into the flow.

To be welcomed as a guest.

Such love is beyond our grasp, hard to receive,

Such a Love,

Such a Welcome.

Forgive us for turning our backs on Your welcome.

Forgive us for walking away from your embrace

Forgive us for turning our eyes away from your loving gaze

Forgive us for thinking that we can be and live without You or a part of You

We ask for Your grace as

We bring our disillusionment to You and You welcome our disappointments

We cry out in despair in our daily experiences and You welcome our woes

We bring our unworthiness and You welcome and affirm us that we are enough

We bring our fears for the future and You welcome our doubts

We show You our wounds, our hurts of words and actions, what we have done to others and others done to us and You welcome the pain and touch those sore parts and give them comfort

We come to You in the dark, not seeing the light and You shine a welcoming lighthouse for us, as a beacon of hope in the dark

We come to You with our bits and pieces, joy, pride, confusion, joy and You welcome all the parts and all of us. The whole lot is welcomed.

We ask for your abundant grace to know how much You long to welcome all of us in Your loving embrace

Such grace is beyond imagination and may it seep into our souls that

You are God, Emmanuel, I am with you,

A welcoming, embracing Love

An always and ever present Welcome