Opening Prayers

It is with humbleness that we are reminded that God comes to us disguised as our life.[1]

We bow down before God, the One who ***comes.***

The Shepherd who seeks for the one lost sheep who rushes out to meet the lost son having waited for years with a cloak for a party.

The One who finds the broken, fragile and sick to gently heal from all wounds.

Thank you for coming to ***us***, to each and all of us.

So that we may be rooted and established in love together with all the saints to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.

We bow before God, the One who comes to us ***disguised.***

Not in loud thunder and lightning or signs pointing the way, but in the ordinary stillness of love and companionship.

As the One walking beside us as a friend with our surprised hearts on fire.

We bow before God the One who comes to us disguised as ***our life.***

Our messy and broken lives.

Our cemented selves like limpets to rocks of false delusions.

Our crusty hard shells that protect and shelter us from the wild waters of realities

And the joy of knowing our true selves as children of God, a pearl of great price

We ask for the work of Grace to crack open our hard shells for renewed life in the living waters.

We ask for the work of Grace to let go again and again of attachments that keep us hostage for a deeper knowing of who we are and Your loving gaze.

We ask for the work of Grace to sense the spaciousness of life and that in all of life and circumstances we know that we are tenderly held in it all.

Re-member us to community of knowing who we are in You.

Re-mind us that we are all held in quiet immensity and tenderness of Your love.

For this and in all things, we are grateful. Amen.

[1] Paula D'Arcy