

# Deep Peace: a prayer for loss and longing and love

For all the holiday traditions that don't work any more  
For the loss of direction

For all the moments you laughed until you cried  
For the words you could not say  
For all the looks you longed to give  
Deep peace of the running wave to you

For the systems stuck, broken, and doing more harm than good  
For the breath and life that came to an end in your circle this year  
For all the hugs you could not give  
For every love lost  
For every new longing of desire  
For songs you ache to sing while lost in an endless crowd  
Deep peace of the flowing air to you

For work that fills the hours of your day  
For trips untaken  
For shorter days and darker nights closing in around you  
For stunted growth, seeds unplanted, and even the wild new sprouts  
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you

For messages unsent  
For lives unlived  
For dreams unremembered  
For futures unimagined  
Deep peace of the shining stars to you

For nights without sleep  
For tests taken, and failed, and passed, and forgotten  
For disappointments and tears and rants and jaws clenched  
For long evenings spent waiting for someone to come home  
Deep peace of the gentle night to you

For justice denied  
For clemency granted  
For every one sitting alone in prison  
For every one sitting alone at home  
For every one sitting alone surrounded by family and food  
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you

For every hope that sustains you  
For every love you have ever known  
For every tiny flicker of joy  
For every candle glowing in hope  
Deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you  
Deep peace of Christ to you