## **Reflection:**

Over these Christmas days as we sit alone or together in prayerful contemplation at the Source, and unite across great distances, we enter deeply into the Love that holds the universe in being. We remember the birth of Christ and are filled with awe and wonder at what was born into the world through him. We are drawn into the mystery of this birth as we allow ourselves to dwell for a time in the stable of our hearts. There in simplicity and silence, we ourselves are enveloped in the Divine Mystery, which holds all in being. There too we encounter the pain of the world -all of it—and sense it being penetrated by Divine Love through our own hearts that reach towards it in deepest compassion.

As Love was born into the world in a new way in a stable in Bethlehem 2000 years ago, so is it born again as we sink into Love's warm embrace and hold to ourselves all in the earth community in need of being embraced and healed by such a Love.

## Prayer:

O Mystery of Uncreated Love, open us to your sacred presence within us and within all of life. Amidst the fear, violence and pain around us grow strong within us. Encompass the darkness and penetrate it with your infinite light - that light that shines in the deepest darkness and cannot be overcome. This Christmas may we, in contemplation together, give birth to a new hope that will shine like a beacon, drawing into its living flame all that is lost, hurt or in pain. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Christ whose birth we remember and whose promise we keep.

