

Your Presence
By Torkom Saraydarian

I used to sit
and sing psalms
to You
in great adoration.

I used to write
words of gratitude
and joy
to You
in great ecstasy.

But, my Lord,
gradually
my ways changed.
I found deeper ways
To contact You.

Sometimes I offer
my heart
in a smile
to you.

Sometimes
I offer my soul
through music,
through a song
to You,
played and sung
through my thoughts.

Sometimes
even I do not use
these means of contact,
but I try to express
my gratitude
through sacrificial service.

Sometimes
I express my gratitude
to You through moments
of renouncement,
detachment,
and loneliness.

Sometimes, my Lord,
I express
my gratitude
walking through
the path of danger,
facing horror,
rejection, and hate.

And, my Lord,
these are moments
when I cannot find
any means
to express my love
to You.

These are moments
of
deep silence
moments of lightning,
moments of conflagration,
moments of Cosmic
explosion,
moments in which
I lose my self
Entirely
But feel Your
Presence.

January 4, 1982

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