

Infusing the Fragrance and Colour of Lent

Icon of Love

Come back to me for,
I will love you with all my heart, ...
I will fall like dew on you.
You shall bloom like a lily
and thrust out roots like a poplar,
your shoots will spread far;
you will have the beauty of the olive
and the fragrance of Lebanon.
You will come back to live in my shade;
You will grow like corn that flourishes,
You will cultivate vines as renowned as the wine of Hebron...
It is I who hear your prayer and care for you.
I am like a cypress ever green, all your fruitfulness comes from me. Hosea 14: 4-8.

- * As the beauty and fruitfulness of this reading from Hosea falls like dew on you and its fragrance fills you with the divine perfume of oneing Love, we invite each other into the shade of the Beloved, to centre, by drawing our awareness into the icon of love that abides within the centre of our heart. We are one here personally and communally in this icon of love.
- * As the quiet begins to settle us, we expand our listening out to the endless horizons of universe upon universe, and draw all sound into the love in the depths of our heart. We open our hearts to the suffering of creation, gathering all suffering into our womb of compassion. We become present to our discursive thinking, close the eyes of our thinking minds and sink blindly into love.
- * We attend to our physical senses of touch, taste and smell and melt them into love. Delicately, we then awaken our spiritual heart senses, inhale the aroma of the divine presence within us and savour the taste of the wine of love.
- * Like the lily blooming and the poplar thrusting out roots deeper and deeper, we feel ourselves grounding, spreading into unfathomable depths. We stretch until we intuitively know that we are within the icon of love at the centre of our heart. Here, in our heart, in the divine heart, our ground and God's ground is the one heart ground. We yield into the luminous ground of infinite divine fertility, into the flow of Love, Lover and Beloved within Love's Trinity, into the ground of pure consciousness, into the oneing.
- * Subtly, yet decisively, we sense the illumination of icon shining into icon, mirroring and reflecting Lover and Beloved one in one another, in this ever-fertile ground of Love's oneing.
- * Mellifluously, we become enraptured by the divine beauty, and absorbed in Love's silence, infused in the inflow-out flow of Trinitarian loving as we repose in silence.
- * The silence ones. We are one in the oneing.

Blessing

Ever gracious diaphanous Love,
As we live in the flow of your oneing love, this Lent,
may we glow with the colours of your radiance
and sing in harmony with the music of your loving.
One in one another, we bless each other and the earth. Amen.

Blessings of love, Dr Kerrie Hide