

CHRISTMAS PRESENCE

Don't fail to give the gift
that no one else can bring.
If there's a former rift,
Let love remove its sting:
 All grudges find release
 when bygones rest in peace.
Your joining in can lift
a broken tune to sing.

You may cause ice to melt,
if you are truly there.
No matter what life's dealt,
Stay present with your care.
 Meet eye-to-eye, as planned—
 no smart-phone in your hand.
Your self's uniquely felt,
when you remain aware.

As get-togethers mount
at Christmastime each year,
your heart can be a fount
to draw the thirsty near.
 The smiles and hugs you give
 must flow while people live.
So, make connections count
before they disappear.

— *David L. Hatton, 12/09/2018*