

God, in all the busyness of the season, I give you thanks for time apart:  
Time to be in peace, time to search for quiet, time to wander with thoughts and feelings  
Time to let my mask slip and own the hurt and pain that is mine today.  
In this space there is no need to pretend, no need to put on a brave face, to wear a smile  
that does not reach my eyes or heart.  
Here you welcome me as I am in all my brokenness and vulnerability in all my grief and  
sorrow, in all that I long for and all that I miss.  
Your welcome holds out the promise of healing.  
May I know your love holding me close as I feel your nearness here in this place. Amen

