## 2022 Homeless Persons' Memorial Vigil Eulogy by Randle Loeb "Surrender"

## - SIMPLE BALANCE OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS -

## WE ARE HEARD AND THEN WE VANISH FROM SIGHT INTO DARKNESS

Remembering when you were here I stumbled you found me when I had passed out disappeared was lost from all touch how I wished that you were here still beside me beside rushing waters absolving me of my aching heart gasping for air breathing into me a trembling bleeding hearts your courage to rise regaining my balance my way caring for me as a sanctified gift from afar It is quiet outside as the chill of the dark deep winter begins to hover over everything there is The world is descending into the earth There is a point when everything stops and remains frozen In this time sound is muffled One feels the sense of dread and longing for a warm fire and company There are many who have few places to go sit down sing gather in preparation for the Winter Solstice that comes to the longest night In this time we bow down and remember those who have died who had to stay outside suffering indignities suffering from the solitude snowy night darkness that is impenetrable remember that once there was a home a place where each one belonged a person to whom one was connected throughout history a bright glint of embers of a yule log ascending into the frigid night reminding us of both how precious and vulnerable that everyone is reminding us of how we all always in all ways are connected in the shelter of one another we all dwell in this moment we're stirred to hold one another to hold on and grasp hands around waists sing dance moves together in rhythms in circles of bonds that held us from the beginning. We remember sitting together around the fire providing warmth as long as we snuggled in a loving embrace held one another shoulder to shoulder protecting all of us making sacred compassion caring a haven for all we all belong for all else that we are offered we give thanks we remember that we are infinitesimal glints to the reflecting of light throughout our firmament our touch is a brief memory that is implanted in our presence in this moment we will always have a place we are born thrust into the wilderness of yearning following us always until we are free dissipating into beyond being heard from no more Remembering in loving memory of Bleeding hearts your presence As long as memory persists We lift our eyes toward you

With adulation that you're here In our broken hearts