Today's Advent Devotional is offered by Todd Clark

## THIS LOVE

As an awakening and a renewing prayerful exercise, I tried replacing the pronouns of HE and SHE when I prayed aloud -and also silently- about God. And in doing so I transformed my prayers and reawakened my faith... Because I recognized and saw God for all that I believe God is and does. I tried using "THIS LOVE" instead of HE or SHE and it rewired everything. It strengthened God's presence- it enlarged it and opened it up .... ...all the way as big as the all-creating, all-knowing and loving "I am", "God is" GOD.

Not either- or any gender, but indeed more- the presence of God Almighty. Almighty God. God as a precious loving moment...and also all of eternity, the entire



cosmos- God as life itself.

"When I feel joy loving and being aware of the wonder of God's Blessings I know THIS LOVE is all that I need.

Where there is despair and sadness and the day feels overwhelming,

God brings healing and THIS LOVE endures in the midst of any pain.

I look for God at the core of my being, the essence of what I want to be,

And THIS LOVE strengthens me, carries me and lifts me up.

God made me. God knows me and loves me for who I am

and THIS LOVE matters the most to me."

THIS LOVE... so much larger than a gender- more than a HE or a SHE...

while at the same time also embracing, expressing and being both, indeed ALL!

GOD <u>is</u> THIS LOVE... THIS LOVE <u>is</u> GOD.

THIS LOVE never waivers and does not diminish.

THIS LOVE...so precious and peaceful, so powerful and real.

THIS LOVE is GOD: creator, mother, father, healer, companion, partner, and lover.

THIS LOVE...for you to get to know and to share, to grow with and to live for... by God.

THIS LOVE ..... is all we need.