

## Homecoming

*But now, Lord, what do I look for? My hope is in you.*  
*Psalm 39:7 (NIV)*

Hope,  
A friend just called and asked me to pray for her daughter who  
is in labor.  
My first thought surrounds the baby whose passage has begun.  
A moment later I envision the strong mother exuding joy and  
raising the child to her breast.  
Hope,  
After a month of being surround by decay and threats of death  
I welcome the promise of new life.  
Like a sunflower I have embodied both deep darkness and  
bright light.  
Now I am ready to harvest from my center the seeds which  
hold abundant possibilities.  
Hope,  
Recently I have named so many hopes that relate to comple-  
tions.  
This unborn child reminds me that endings are also beginnings.  
What I embrace this morning is Your presence.  
Hope,  
You are the hope inside all my other desires.  
I dream my visions for the future with You.  
And I ask, "What do You want to do together?"  
Hope,  
Which dreams do You pray for me?  
What in me needs to bravely push its way into a new phase of  
existence?  
Will I, like a mother, take the new life I meet and instinctively  
and joyfully nurture it?  
Hope,  
Oh, beautiful Hope,  
Oh, fragrant Hope,  
I long for You even though You are with me and within me.

*Hope, for all that is ready to be born, we pray . . . Amen.*  
*Jill Kimberly Hartwell Geoffrion*

# Women at the Well

Meditations  
on Healing  
and Wholeness

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