You keep us waiting.

You, the God of all time,

want us to wait

for the right time in which to discover

who we are, where we must go,

who will be with us, and what we must do.

So, thank you for the waiting time.

You keep us looking.

You, the God of all space.

want us to look in the right and wrong places

for signs of hope,

for people who are hopeless,

for visions of a better world which will appear

among the disappointments of the world we know.

So, thank you for the looking time.

You keep us loving.

You, the God whose name is love,

wants us to be like you -

to love the loveless and the unlovely and the unlovable;

to love without jealousy or design or threat,

and most difficult of all,

to love ourselves.

So, thank you for the loving time.

And in all this, you keep us,

through hard questions with no easy answers,

through failing where we hoped to succeed

and making an impact when we felt we were useless;

through the patience and dreams and the love of others;

and through Jesus Christ and his Spirit,

you keep us.