

## **Ode to Christ**

*Had you not been  
I could not be.  
Had you not lived,  
I could not find the way  
to live a life  
in truth.*

*Truth's not  
to be and live  
in some unfleshed  
unwordly way,  
but  
to be true  
to times and God  
- together -  
with single passion.*

*Truth's not  
apart from life.  
Life, history, times,  
the things  
as well as God  
do call.*

*To be  
apart from life,  
silent,  
bespeaks  
both death and sin.*

*Had you not been  
I could not be,*

*And so,  
I give  
my thanks.*

*Arthur Freeman,  
June 20 1994*