Facilitator: Let us say together....... 

All: We are gathered “in the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate.”

Facilitator: In the presence of overwhelming sorrow our hearts are often like stone, fearful and protected. Even Jesus asked that the cup of sorrow be removed. We from time and time again refuse the cup all together. We turn away and harden our hearts.

Facilitator: Oh God, When we are blind to the cup of sorrow.

All: Give us sight to see.

Facilitator: When we are asleep to sorrow.

All: Awaken us.

Facilitator: When our hearts are like stone.

All: Soften us.

All: Lord, open our eyes that we may see you in our brothers and sisters. Lord, open our ears that we may hear the cries of the hungry, the cold, the frightened, the oppressed. Lord, open our hearts that we may love each other as you love us. Renew in us your spirit. Lord, free us and make us one. Amen (Mother Teresa)

Reader 1: Matthew 26:36-46

Reader 2: Choose from one of the following:
Psalm 22: 1-2 and Psalm 23:4, or
Psalm 27: 13-14 or
Psalm 28: 6-7

Facilitator: And now let us offer our petitions to God for this ongoing journey:
Sending Prayer

Facilitator: Let us offer our concerns and encouragements to each other, as we leave this space to continue our journey…

Facilitator: In silence I invite you, one at a time, to move a stone from one side of the tray and place it close to the cross on the other side, saying, “I will wait with you.”

All:

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;
it is pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Facilitator: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord with compassion. Let us share the peace as we prepare to continue our journey.

Everyone shares God’s Peace