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

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

Facilitator: We are like parched land or seeds in the winter soil and are waiting to be awakened. As we open our hearts let us give the Christ within permission to blossom. As we pour this water let us remember the water of our Baptism to initiate our journey together.

Reader 1: Let us come to these sessions with open hands ready to receive

All: Open Hands

Reader 2: Let us come to these sessions with open minds ready to hear God’s desire.

All: Open Hands, Open Minds

Reader 3: Let us come to these sessions with open hearts ready to heal our broken world.

All: Open Hands, Open Minds, Open Hearts

Reader 4  I Corinthians 13: 1-3

Reader 5  Micah 6:6-8

Facilitator: And now let us offer our petitions to God for this journey we are beginning together.
Sending Prayer

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

All: Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to thee, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly thine, utterly dedicated unto thee: and then use us, we pray thee, as thou wilt, and always to thy glory and the welfare of thy people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen. (from the BCP)

Facilitator: The Dalai Lama said, “All major religious traditions carry basically the same message, that is love, compassion and forgiveness. The important thing is they should be part of our daily lives.” Let us share this tea as a symbol of our willingness to receive the transforming power of Christ’s love. As we drink together let us acknowledge that we cannot even imagine the blossoming that God intends for us.

(All Drink together)

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.

All: Let us go then with Open hands, Open minds, Open hearts.

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 share God’s Peace)