

**Liturgy for Discernment**  
Working together in the Spirit



**Ritual**

We light a candle and sit in silence.  
We recognize God's presence in us, with us, and around us.

**Relate**

Each person offers a word or phrase that describes "how they come."  
Words or phrases are spoken to the center.  
As sharing is complete an affirmation may be spoken:  
*God is here. Christ is in us. The Spirit keeps our life.*

**Receive**

We attend to God through prayer, usually a modified form of lectio divina.  
Words or phrases that arise from prayer are shared.  
A guiding phrase is chosen to return to throughout the meeting.

**Respond**

Out of listening, we attend to agenda items.  
Between agenda items we pause, to repeat our guiding word or phrase.  
Open space allows the Spirit to mold us gently.

**Reflect**

At the end of the meeting, we reflect.  
What happened here and what is the significance of it in our life together?  
Prayers of gratitude, intercession, or relinquishment may be offered.  
*We lift our hearts in gratitude for...*  
*We release into your keeping and care...*

Looking forward, we ask what is God's call to us?  
We set the agenda for our next meeting.

**Renew**

We go forth sharing this blessing.  
**God before us, God behind us.**  
**God above us, God beneath us.**  
**We on your path, O God.**  
**You, O God, on our way.**  
**In the twistings of the road,**  
**in the winding of the path,**  
**be with us by day, be with us by night,**  
**be with us by day and by night. Amen**

*To be God's partner in the process of faith formation means creating space for prayer, listening, noticing, discerning.*