**Communal Contemplative Prayer**

**in solidarity with women religious – Dates, 20xx**

**Gathering**

Holy Mystery, Holy One beyond all names, you are always with us. Thank you.

We desire to make more space for you to move in us and in our world.

We desire to let go… and to let come… as we enter into the marvel of your love.

We feel your breath in our breath, flowing in…. and out…. carrying away everything except this moment. (Pause.) We settle into this time… here… together… in your Holy Mystery.

**A poem by Wendell Berry** *(“Sabbaths 1999 VI”, in his book* Given*)*

We travelers, walking to the sun, can't see

Ahead, but looking back the very light

That blinded us shows us the way we came,

Along which blessings now appear, risen

As if from sightlessness to sight, and we,

By blessing brightly lit, keep going toward

That blessed light that yet to us is dark.



**(30 minutes of silence)**

**(Sharing, as you wish)**

**CLOSING**

We pray in gratitude for our traveling companions – each other, our loved ones, the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, the communion of saints….

O Holy Love, we give you all our prayers and entrust the outcomes to you. And so we pray: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth. Amen.

**SIGN OF PEACE**

**Closing**

O Holy Love, we give you all that is in our hearts and entrust the outcomes to you. And so we pray: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth. Amen.