Leader: The Spirit of God is upon me
All: God has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.
Leader: Send forth your Spirit, and we shall be created.
All: And You will renew the face of earth!
Leader: Glory to you three in One
All: Your mercy endures forever. Amen

Reading: Jeremiah 29: 11-13
“For I know well the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare, not for woe! Plans to give you a future full of hope. When you call me, when you go to pray to me, I will listen to you. When you look for me, you will find me. Yes, when you seek me with all your heart, you will find me with you.”  
(Pause)

Psalm 23 adapted by Nan Merrill
Antiphon: We have ever confided largely in Divine Providence and shall continue to do so.

O my Beloved, you are my shepherd,  
I shall not want;  
You bring me to green pastures for rest  
and lead me beside still waters  
renewing my spirit,  
You restore my soul.  
You lead me in the path of goodness  
to follow Love’s way.

Even though I walk through the valley  
of the shadow and of death,  
I am not afraid;  
for you are with me forever;  
your rod and your staff they guide me,  
they give me strength and comfort.

You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of all my fears;  
you bless me with oil, my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy will follow me  
all the days of my life;  
and I shall dwell in the heart of the Beloved forever.
Reflection Questions:

1. As I pray and consider our journey to oneness in the Institute, I am moved to call the Mid-Atlantic Community and our next leadership to focus our energies on....

2. Marie McCarthy in her article “Tending the Gifts in the Dark Places,” focuses on transformational leadership. How does this concept influence your understanding of leadership as we journey to oneness?

3. Given this moment in our history, what are the gifts, qualities and skills needed in our next leadership team?

4. Any anxiety or apprehension I have about discerning the next leadership team centers around...

Hymn: God of Day and God of Darkness (Leader choose verses)

1. God of day and God of darkness, now we stand before the night;  
   As the shadows stretch and deepen, come and make our darkness bright.  
   All creation still is groaning for the dawning of your might.  
   When the Sun of peace and justice fills the world with radiant light.

2. Still the nations curse the darkness; still the rich oppress the poor.  
   Still the earth is bruised and broken by the ones who still want more.  
   Come and wake us from our sleeping so our hearts cannot ignore  
   All your people lost and broken, all your children at your door.

3. Show us Christ in one another, make us servants strong and true.  
   Give us all your love of justice, so we do what you would do.  
   Let us call all people holy, let us pledge our lives anew;  
   Make us one with all the lowly, let us all be one with you.

4. You shall be the path that guides us, you the light that in us burns;  
   Shining deep within all people, yours the love that we must learn,  
   Still our hearts will wander restless ‘til they safe with you return;  
   Finding you in one another, we shall all your face discern.

5. Gentle Father, Loving Mother, Jesus Brother, Savior, Friend;  
   Spirit of all grace and power, may we praise you without end.  
   Grant us all a peaceful resting; le each mind and body mend.  
   So we rise refreshed tomorrow, hearts renewed to Kindom tend.

Marty Haugen, 1985, GIA inc.


(Conversation)
Prayer for Wisdom in the Spirit of Catherine McAuley

Come, O life-giving Spirit, transform us. Stir up in us the flame of love which is your gift. Give us wisdom to see as you see. Give us understanding to hear as you hear. Give us courage and strength to walk the way of justice and integrity. Kindle in us wonder and awe, that we may have grateful spirits. You who dwell within us, praying unceasingly, fill us with love and devotion. Holy Wisdom, guide us in the choices we must make. Give us discerning hearts that we may choose what is good, in accord with your desire. Loving God of mercy, finish in us the work you have begun. Amen.