

# Closing Circle, part 1

Use this circle guide to support processing of the trial broadly.

- Welcome
  - *As people enter the space, welcome them. Invite them to do what they need in order to be fully present for the next hour to ninety minutes that they will be together.*
- Body Centering
  - *Picture something that smells fabulous to you. Take a moment and fully visualize yourself in a space where you are smelling that wonderful smell. Are you deep in a wooded area, near a stream? Are you tucked into a cozy chair waiting for chocolate chip cookies to come out of the oven? Maybe you just kissed the top of a baby's head. Take a moment to immerse yourself in wherever you pictured and breath in the delicious scent.*
- Introductions/Check-In - *Invite participants to introduce themselves. The circle keeper may decide to call on each person individually, choose to start with one person and ask them to pick the person who goes next, or provide a speaking order in the chat or on the screen.*
  - Go around and share what scent you imagined, if you feel comfortable, or another scent you really enjoy.
- Quote - *Read the following quote as grounding:*
  - *"I was going to die, sooner or later, whether or not I had even spoken myself. My silences had not protected me. Your silences will not protect you...what are the words you do not yet have? What are the tyrannies you swallow day by day and attempt to make your own, until you will sicken and die of them, still in silence? We have been socialized to respect fear more than our own need for language." - Audre Lorde (Black, American poet and civil rights advocate, feminist)*

# Closing Circle, part 2

- Sharing Perspectives. *Ask participants to answer:*
  - **Round 1:** Cast your mind and heart back to May 25, 2020 - where were you when you heard George Floyd had been killed? What were your first thoughts and actions?
  - **Round 2:** Has your thinking about race changed in the past year (if at all)? How? How have you seen conversations about race play out in your communities or the spaces you sit in?
  - **Round 3:** What growth have you seen in yourself over the past year? What growth have you seen in our community? Where do you still see opportunities to grow?
  - **Round 4:** Who or what will stay with you from Chauvin's trial and conviction?
  - **Round 5:** How will you honor the memory of George Floyd?
- Closing Quote - Read the following:
  - "I believe we become more fully human with any gesture of generosity, any time we reach out to another rather than withdraw into our individual suffering. To become fully human we need to keep opening our hearts, no matter what. At this time when suffering and anxiety continue to increase, when there is always reason to weep for some unbearable tragedy inflicted by one human on another, I try to remember to keep my heart open." - Margaret Wheatley, consultant and speaker in Utah - developed Training for Warriors of the Human Spirit