



LIVING IN THE LIGHT

## The Word

### **Thirty-first Week of Ordinary Time** *Week of October 30*

#### ***Call to Prayer and Sharing***

- ✦ *Leader invites all into a few moments of silent reflection to remember that we are in the presence of God. (reflective pause)*
  
- ✦ *Then: “In the name of the Father and of the Son . . . .”*

#### ***The Word of God***

- ✦ *Leader reads part or all of one of the scripture texts from the previous Sunday.*

Luke 19:1-10

At that time, Jesus came to Jericho and intended to pass through the town. Now a man there named Zacchaeus, who was a chief tax collector and also a wealthy man, was seeking to see who Jesus was; but he could not see him because of the crowd, for he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said, “Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house.” And he came down quickly and received him with joy. When they all saw this, they began to grumble, saying, “He has gone to stay at the house of a sinner.” But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over.” And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house because this man too is a descendant of Abraham. For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save what was lost.”

### ***Faith Sharing***

- ✦ *Leader reminds everyone of the Question of the Week which relates to the particular group gathered . . . .*

**Children:** If Jesus came to your house for dinner, what would you say to him?

**Teens:** How does your curiosity help you discover more about your faith and get closer to Jesus?

**Adults:** Do you find yourself acting more like Zaccheus, excited to see who Jesus was, or like those who grumbled about where Jesus went for dinner?

We offer this form of contemplative sharing for pondering Scripture while considering the question, and for the faith sharing which follows.

- Listen/ Read (Lectio): Ponder God's word and listen for what touches your heart.
- Meditate (Meditatio): Notice what you notice. Allow God's word to resonate in you.
- Speak/Share (Oratio): Prayerfully share with the group your thoughts and feelings.
- Rest in God's presence (Contemplatio): Notice God's presence and be still, surrounded by God's love.

*Time is provided for sharing responses to the question. Silence between responses is to be expected. Allow about 15 minutes for faith sharing. For larger groups, leader invites members to divide into groups of three or four for faith sharing.*

- ✦ *When the sharing comes to an end, the leader invites everyone to take a moment to silently and reverently hold what has been shared together.*
- ✦ *Continue with the meeting, turning to the agenda.*

### ***Concluding the meeting***

*At the end of the meeting, the leader closes with the following prayer:*

Good and Gracious God,  
your love for us surpasses all understanding.  
As we leave here today,  
be with us in all our comings and goings,  
and in all that we say and do.  
We pray this in the name of Christ Jesus who is our Light.  
Amen.