



LIVING IN THE LIGHT

## The Word

### Fourth Sunday of Easter

*Week of May 7*

#### ***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.*

ACTS 2:14A, 36-41

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven,  
raised his voice, and proclaimed:  
"Let the whole house of Israel know for certain  
that God has made both Lord and Christ,  
this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart,  
and they asked Peter and the other apostles,  
"What are we to do, my brothers?"  
Peter said to them,  
"Repent and be baptized, every one of you,  
in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins;  
and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.  
For the promise is made to you and to your children  
and to all those far off,  
whomever the Lord our God will call."  
He testified with many other arguments, and was exhorting them,  
"Save yourselves from this corrupt generation."  
Those who accepted his message were baptized,  
and about three thousand persons were added that day.

#### ***Faith Sharing***

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

**Children:** What prayers do you have to offer others who feel hurt?

**Teens:** How do you keep the message of Jesus alive in your life?

**Adults:** How are you challenged by your baptism to reconciliation and actions of justice?

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.