



LIVING IN THE LIGHT

The Word

## **First Sunday of Advent**

*Week of November 27*

### ***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.*

Matthew 24: 42 - 44

Therefore, stay awake!

For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.

Be sure of this: if the master of the house

had known the hour of night when the thief was coming,

he would have stayed awake

and not let his house be broken into.

So too, you also must be prepared,

for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.

### ***Faith Sharing***

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

**Child:** How can you get ready for Jesus at Christmas?

**Teens:** What changes can you make in your daily life that would better prepare you for Jesus' Second Coming?

**Adult:**

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.