



LIVING IN THE LIGHT

## The Word

### 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

*Week of June 2*

#### ***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.*

John 17: 20-26

Lifting up his eyes to heaven, Jesus prayed saying:  
"Holy Father, I pray not only for them,  
but also for those who will believe in me through their word,  
so that they may all be one,  
as you, Father, are in me and I in you,  
that they also may be in us,  
that the world may believe that you sent me.  
And I have given them the glory you gave me,  
so that they may be one, as we are one,  
I in them and you in me,  
that they may be brought to perfection as one,  
that the world may know that you sent me,  
and that you loved them even as you loved me.  
Father, they are your gift to me.  
I wish that where I am they also may be with me,  
that they may see my glory that you gave me,  
because you loved me before the foundation of the world.  
Righteous Father, the world also does not know you,  
but I know you, and they know that you sent me.  
I made known to them your name and I will make it known,  
that the love with which you loved me  
may be in them and I in them."

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

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

**Children:** Jesus tells us He is always with us. Name a time this past week when you knew that God was with you in a special way.

**Teens:** Jesus prayed for his disciples, that others might believe in him through their words. How are you spreading your belief in Jesus through your words and actions? Do others know who Jesus is by knowing you?

**Adults:** Jesus invites us to be one with God. Name a moment when you were one with God this past week.

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.