



LIVING IN THE LIGHT

## The Word

### 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Week of July 28*

#### ***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 11: 1 -13

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said to him,  
"Lord, teach us to pray just as John taught his disciples."  
He said to them, "When you pray, say:  
Father, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come.  
Give us each day our daily bread  
and forgive us our sins  
for we ourselves forgive everyone in debt to us,  
and do not subject us to the final test."

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend to whom he goes at midnight and says,  
'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread,  
for a friend of mine has arrived at my house from a journey and I have nothing to offer him,'  
and he says in reply from within,  
'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked and my children and I are already in bed.  
I cannot get up to give you anything.'  
I tell you,  
if he does not get up to give the visitor the loaves because of their friendship,  
he will get up to give him whatever he needs because of his persistence.

"And I tell you, ask and you will receive;  
seek and you will find;

knock and the door will be opened to you.  
For everyone who asks, receives;  
and the one who seeks, finds;  
and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.  
What father among you would hand his son a snake  
when he asks for a fish?  
Or hand him a scorpion when he asks for an egg?  
If you then, who are wicked,  
know how to give good gifts to your children,  
how much more will the Father in heaven  
give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"

### ***Faith Sharing***

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

**Children:** People sometimes say mean things that hurt our feelings and Jesus tells us we should forgive them. Can you think of a time where you forgave someone for hurting your feelings? Sometimes we ourselves say mean things that hurt other people feelings. Can you think of a time where you told someone you were sorry for something you said and asked them to forgive you?

**Teens:** “The Lord’s Prayer” is one of the more common prayers we say as Christians because of how powerful a prayer it is. It speaks of many things; respecting the name of God, working for his kingdom here on earth, gaining daily strength from our relationship with God, and forgiving those who have wronged us for example. What part of the prayer strikes you the most strongly and how can you live it in your life?

**Adults:** “The Lord’s Prayer” is one of the more common prayers we say as Christians because of how powerful a prayer it is. It speaks of many things; respecting the name of God, working for his kingdom here on earth, gaining daily strength from our relationship with God, and forgiving those who have wronged us for example. What part of the prayer strikes you the most strongly and how can you live it in your life?

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.
- Choose to act (Actio): Trusting in God’s nearness, commit to action rooted in 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.