



Living in the Spirit
Mary, Mother of God
Son of Mary, Son of Justice

Call to Prayer and Sharing

❖ *Invitation to Prayer - Leader*

Let us begin,
Now, here in this place
With a moment of silence
to reflect,
to focus,
to be attentive to ourselves,
to one another,
and to the presence of Christ.

May the Lord come and increase our faith. (*reflective pause*)

❖ *Opening Song - If time allows, sing a familiar hymn or song.*

❖ *Then: "In the name of the Father and of the Son . . ."*

The Word of God

❖ *Leader: Let us welcome God's Word into our hearts.*

○ *Sing to the melody of "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow".*

Open our minds to, know you Lord;
Open our hearts to, hear your voice;
Open our hearts now, to your Word;
Come to us now, O Lord, our God.

From Luke 2:16-21 (the shepherds find Jesus)

The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph,
and the infant lying in the manger.

When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them
about this child.

All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds.

And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.

Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God
for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them.

When eight days were completed for his circumcision,
he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel
before he was conceived in the womb.

The Word of the Lord...

❖ *At the conclusion of the reading, briefly pause for quiet reflection.*

Faith Sharing/Question of the Week (*consider sharing on either question*)

❖ **Adult:** How do you honor and reverence the name of Jesus?

❖ **Mixed Ages:** Why are names special? What is special about your name?

Time is provided for sharing responses to the question. Silence between responses is to be expected. Allow a few minutes for faith sharing. For larger groups, leader invites members to divide into groups of 3 or 4 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.*

Litany of Faith

Leader: Christ Jesus, Son of Mary and Son of Justice, you continually bless us and keep us safe. May we be a sign of mercy to the world.

All: Son of Mary, Son of Justice, show us your mercy and righteousness!

Leader: Christ Jesus, Son of Mary and Son of Justice, you tirelessly reveal your compassion to all. May we be a sign of mercy to the world.

All: Son of Mary, Son of Justice, show us your mercy and righteousness!

Leader: Christ Jesus, Son of Mary and Son of Justice, you relentlessly lavish us with forgiveness and peace. May we be a sign of mercy to the world.

All: Son of Mary, Son of Justice, show us your mercy and righteousness!

The Lord's Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together:

All: Gracious God,
we know that you are with us here,
and we have taken your Word into our hearts.

You call us all to conversion,
we who are here in this place,
and we who are now ready to welcome you into our lives.

We are ready,
we are willing,
and we are yours.

So we surrender to you
our aches and longings into one as we pray:
Our Father...

Continue with the Meeting

Final Blessing

Leader: Now let us bless one another:

All: May God bless and keep us, may God smile upon us.
May God show us kindness, fill us with peace.
And may God bless us, Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
may we always love and serve,
filled with God's Peace. Amen.

Leader: *Conclude the meeting or sing a closing song.*

Reflection Question to take home for the week: How has this Word touched or challenged my understanding of God? About faith? About the Church?