



Living in the Spirit  
◆ **29<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time**  
**Our Help Comes From The Lord**

***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 18:1 – 8 (God will take care of those who call out to him)**

Jesus told his disciples a parable  
about the necessity for them to pray always without becoming weary.  
He said, "There was a judge in a certain town  
who neither feared God nor respected any human being.  
And a widow in that town used to come to him and say,  
'Render a just decision for me against my adversary.'  
For a long time the judge was unwilling, but eventually he thought,  
'While it is true that I neither fear God nor respect any human being,  
because this widow keeps bothering me  
I shall deliver a just decision for her  
lest she finally come and strike me.'"  
The Lord said, "Pay attention to what the dishonest judge says.  
Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones  
who call out to him day and night?  
Will he be slow to answer them?  
I tell you, he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily.  
But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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:** Describe an occasion this past week when your actions matched your thoughts.

❖ **Mixed Ages:** When is God so close to you that what you feel in your heart is the same as what you do?

***For further reflection and discussion (optional)***

- ❖ How does this influence and affect what we are doing here at this gathering?

*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, you are the source of our help.  
We praise you for your presence in our lives.
- All:** Our help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.
- Leader:** Christ Jesus, you never allow us stumble.  
We praise you for your presence in our lives.
- All:** Our help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.
- Leader:** Christ Jesus, you guard us from evil, and keep us safe.  
We praise you for your presence in our lives.
- All:** Our help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

***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.*