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 John 10:27-30 (I give my sheep eternal life)

Jesus said:

“My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me.
I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish.
No one can take them out of my hand.
My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all,
and no one can take them out of the Father’s hand.
The Father and I are one.”

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: Jesus calls each one of us to be a disciple today through our baptism. Name one way that Jesus is calling you to be a disciple this week.

Mixed Ages: Jesus called the sheep by name just as we are called by name. Find out what your name means and why you were given that name. Write or draw about the name God uses to call you.

For further reflection and discussion

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 continually call out to us.
Speak to us!

**All:** Help us now to hear your voice, Alleluia!

**Leader:** Christ Jesus, you continually reach out to us in love.
Speak to us!

**All:** Help us now to hear your voice, Alleluia!

**Leader:** Christ Jesus, you continually want for us to be close to you.
Speak to us!

**All:** Help us now to hear your voice, Alleluia!

**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.