



Living in the Spirit  
◆ 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent  
**I am the Resurrection, I am the Life**

**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*)

❖ *If time allows, sing a familiar hymn or refrain from Sunday's Responsorial Psalm.*

❖ *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 11:3-7, 17, 20-27 (the resurrection and the life)**

The sisters of Lazarus sent word to Jesus, saying, "Master, the one you love is ill."  
When Jesus heard this he said, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it."  
Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that he was ill, he remained for two days in the place where he was. Then after this he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you."

Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

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:** Are there parts of your life that Jesus has called back to life? What are they?
- ❖ **Mixed Ages:** How does loving Jesus give you a new life?

*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 hold for us the greatest hope of all – life everlasting!  
You truly are the Christ, the son of God!

**All:** I am the resurrection, I am the life; all who believe in me shall live!

**Leader:** Christ Jesus, you instill in us all that is possible for us – life everlasting!  
You truly are the Christ, the son of God!

**All:** I am the resurrection, I am the life; all who believe in me shall live!

**Leader:** Christ Jesus, you alone are the Holy One, the Lord who saves – life everlasting!  
You truly are the Christ, the son of God!

**All:** I am the resurrection, I am the life; all who believe in me shall live!

### ***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.*