

Parish Meeting Prayers

For use in January, 2020

Introduction

Leader What is God like? For Christians, the answer is found in the teachings and actions of Jesus in whom God is revealed.

Opening Prayer

All Generous Father, you gave us your son, Jesus, so we could draw closer to you. Guide us in our efforts to know and love Jesus whose actions teach us how to live as his disciples. We ask this in his name. Amen.

Word of God John 1:29-34

Reader A reading from the Gospel of John (Pause for silent reflection)

Optional Discuss these questions in two's or three's. *The reading is on the reverse side.*

1. In studying the person of Jesus in the Gospels, which of his actions most affect your daily life?
2. In introducing Jesus to a friend, what would you want to be sure to say about him?

Response (from John 1:29-34)

Side 1 "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world."

Side 2 As John pointed to Jesus as forgiver of sins, so may we be agents of forgiveness.

Side 1 "He is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit."

Side 2 May we renew our connection to God's power in us through the Holy Spirit.

Side 1 "Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God."

Side 2 Jesus brings us to the Father through the power of the Holy Spirit within each of us.

Petitions Individuals add intentions to remember here.

Closing Prayer

Faithful God, gather our concerns, needs and hopes into a prayer of gratitude for the gift of Jesus. Keep our faith and love growing and maturing as we praise your goodness. We pray with the believing Church in Jesus' name. Amen.

John 1:29-34

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said,
 “Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.
He is the one of whom I said,
 ‘A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me
 because he existed before me.’
I did not know him,
 but the reason why I came baptizing with water
 was that he might be made known to Israel.”

John testified further, saying,
 “I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven
 and remain upon him.
I did not know him,
 but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me,
 ‘On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain,
 he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’

Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God.”