



Living in the Spirit
◆ **4th Sunday of Ord Time - Unclean Spirits Obey**
Week of Jan 29th, 2012

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 Mark 1:21-28 (Cure of the demoniac)

Then they came to Capernaum,
and on the sabbath Jesus entered the synagogue and taught.
The people were astonished at his teaching,
for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes.
In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit;
he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?
Have you come to destroy us?
I know who you are?the Holy One of God!"
Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!"
The unclean spirit convulsed him and with a loud cry came out of him.
All were amazed and asked one another, "What is this? A new teaching with authority.
He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him."
His fame spread everywhere throughout the whole region of Galilee.
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:** What are the evils in today's world that you pray God will free us from?

❖ **Mixed Ages:** Name some bad things that you pray Jesus will take away from our world?

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 all that is good.
Teach us, lead us, heal us.

All: Who are you? Who are you that unclean spirits obey you?

Leader: Christ Jesus, you are the source of reconciliation and compassion.
Teach us, lead us, heal us.

All: Who are you? Who are you that unclean spirits obey you?

Leader: Christ Jesus, you are the source of wonder and grace.
Teach us, lead us, heal us.

All: Who are you? Who are you that unclean spirits obey you?

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?