

Communal Lectio Divina

The Transfiguration

Opening Prayer

Jesus, true light, you enlighten everyone who comes into the world. I know you have come from God to be our Teacher, and that you teach us God's ways in truth. The words you have spoken to us are spirit and life, but who is worthy to break open the seals and open the book? You alone are worthy – the lamb who was slain for us. You have redeemed us, not by silver or gold, but by your precious blood!



The Scripture Passage

Matthew 17:1-9 (NRSV)

17 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. **2** And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. **3** Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. **4** Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” **5** While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” **6** When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. **7** But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” **8** And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

9 As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

Lectio (Reader 1) – Read the Gospel passage out loud slowly and reflectively – respecting the pauses the passage presents. After a moment of silence, read the Gospel passage again. (In a group, read the passage aloud).

Silence (approx. 3 mins) – Spend this time reflecting: “What is the Scripture itself saying?”

Meditatio (Reader 2) --- Read the Gospel passage slowly and reflectively again. As we listen to the Word this time, we allow the words we are reading to mind to our heart.

Silence (approx. 3 mins) – “What is the Scripture saying to my heart?”

Prayerfully “echo” the Word by choosing a word or phrase that resonates in your heart at this time.

Oratio (Prayer) – What do you wish to say to the Lord in response to the Word he has spoken to you? Silently offer a simple prayer of response to the Lord (i.e., praise, thanks, petition) related to the Word you are pondering. (approx. 1---2 mins)

Contemplatio (Contemplate) – We rest in the Word we have received, savoring it, waiting with it. (approx. 3---5 mins)

Collatio (Sharing) – In your heart gather the fruits of this Meditation. One of the following questions may help facilitate your reflection:

- What truth is the Lord presenting to my mind? (Truth)
- What is the Word saying to my heart? (Life)
- What is the Word saying to me about my actions, my service, my choices? (Way)

In a group, each person is invited to share briefly (approx. 1-2 min) what the Word is saying to them.

Closing Prayer

Grant that I may learn your unfathomable riches and the mysteries of the kingdom. Show me the treasures of the wisdom and knowledge of God that are hidden in your word (see Col 2:3). Lord, may your words take root in my soul, enlighten my steps, and brighten my way—until the day dawns when darkness vanishes forever! Amen.