



Small Groups @ All Saints: Fall 2024

Gathering

The members sit for a time in silence.

Opening

The group prays the Covenant Prayer together.

Covenant Prayer

Loving God, we thank you for this group and our time together and we ask your Spirit to guide us as we gather in the name of Jesus, your son. May we hear your voice in the sacred scriptures and be open to each other as we pray together and share our lives. Help us to be in covenant with You, our God, and with one another by committing to being here as often as we can, sharing from our heart, honoring one another, and being Church with and for each other. May our time of prayer and reflection deepen our love for You and strengthen us to go forth to live our lives rooted in the Good News that we have shared. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

God Sightings

Group members share a specific “God sighting” or experience of the Holy in the past week. A member may prefer to share a place where they longed for God or the Holy to be present / intervene.

Preparing for Sunday

The group listens to the Sunday Gospel (or other reading) read aloud. After some silence, the convener invites someone to share what word or idea from the reading strikes them. The person shares the word or idea without further comment and then the next person shares in the same way. When all have shared, the Gospel is read again, perhaps from another translation. After some silence, the convener invites someone to share what question(s) they have about this passage; again, all follow, going around the group, until all have had a chance to speak. Finally, the convener invites people to share where they hear a word from God for them in their own lives.

Group Specific Activity

A group might choose a particular focus, such as reading a spiritual work together or sharing in an activity. A group might also use this time for sharing spiritual autobiographies and “checking in” about their lives. Spending more time on Sunday scripture is also welcome!

Closing Prayer and Closing Words

The convener closes the meeting by first inviting people to share prayer requests, then closing with a simple prayer like Compline or even reciting together the Lord’s Prayer and then ends the meeting by reading aloud these Closing Words: Please remember that what we have said in this gathering was spoken in confidence. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

The members respond:

Thanks be to God.