

## **LECTIO DIVINA:**

Lectio Divina is an ancient church practice meant to engage our minds, hearts, and God-given imaginations with Scripture.

With Lectio Divina, we read for transformation, not merely for information. It's a kind of reading that, instead of being quick and comprehensive, is slower and perhaps more in-depth. Throughout this series we will use this practice to guide us through passages of Scripture that correspond to the weekly sermon.

Instead of trying to master the information, we seek to let God master us through the Scripture. We read with our heart as well as our mind. The four movements of Lectio Divina are:

- Read (Lectio)
- Reflect (Meditatio)
- Respond (Oratio)
- Rest (Contemplatio)

As you open to the assigned Scripture for the week, take a deep breath and remember that God is ready to meet you in a fresh way in the story. Be open to using your imagination as you read the passage — what do you see, smell, or taste? How might you see yourself in the story, and what words or principles may God be highlighting to you? As a reminder, you are not approaching the text in this reading to amass information, but to experience God.

## WHAT GOD CAN DO THROUGH ORDINARY YOU

- 1. **READ** the passage slowly.
  - Make notes of anything that stands out to you.
  - Pause and ask God, what should I see in this Scripture today?
- 2. Read the passage slowly again and REFLECT.
  - What did you notice in the story?
  - What word or phrase stood out to you?
  - Did a person or place in the story capture your imagination?
  - How did God speak to you as you immersed yourself in this Scripture?
- 3. **RESPOND** How will you respond to God's promptings, putting into practice what you heard through the Scripture?
- 4. **REST** Now just sit and rest in the serenity of what you have read and experienced. Listen for any further nudges from God.

