

DEVOTIONS

Think about devotions as a continuation of our community's worship. The following basic pattern could be one way of forming your household's devotions. Adapt as necessary!

GATHERING

✠ Light a candle to help you focus this time as "God time."

✠ Prayer of the Week

God of the Resurrection, create in us a new life. You gave breath to Lazarus, and we ask that you fill us with the same breath of life. In the midst of our daily routine, fill us with your Holy Spirit so that we can share in full our lives with others. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

Take a moment to check in with each other or to use the questions below.

- 🔗 **Highs & Lows:** Name one thing that brought you happiness today. Name one thing that did not make you happy.
- 🔗 **Thinking about This Week's Story:** Even though Jesus ends up saving Lazarus from death, Jesus cried. What has made you sad or upset today? What brought you comfort?
- 🔗 **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Jesus washes the feet of the disciples and sets before them a new command to love one another. When did you show love today? When did others show you love?

DAILY BIBLE READING

Read aloud from the DAILY BIBLE READING from the front. What do you want to remember from this reading?

PRAY TOGETHER

- ✠ Ask one person in your group to be Lazarus. Wrap them with a roll of toilet paper. Say the Lord's Prayer together and at the end say, "Come out, Lazarus!" Have the person then break through the paper and rejoice in new life together.

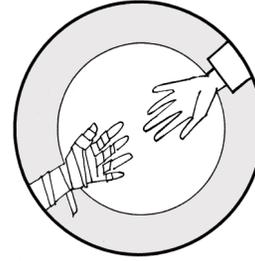
CLOSING

- ✠ If you used a candle, extinguish it as a sign of the end of the devotion time.
- ✠ **Rituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share**
With permission, mark one another with the sign of the cross on each other's hands or forehead, and say, "God has called you by name. Amen."

The "Four Key Faith Practices"—Caring Conversations, Devotions, Service, and Rituals & Traditions—are a framework developed by the Rev. Dr. David Anderson of Milestones Ministry and used by permission from Vibrant Faith Ministries, Bloomington, MN (www.vibrantfaith.org). For more information about the Four Keys, go to <http://milestonesministry.org/>.

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

John 11:1-44



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life."

—John 11:25

MEALTIME PRAYER

God of life, you provide us food to eat. God of life, you provide us water to drink. God of life, you provide us family and friends to share food and drink with in person and in spirit. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

As you read, ask yourself: **What do each of these stories have in common?**

Sunday	John 11:1-44	Jesus Raises Lazarus
Monday	John 11:45-57	Concern About Jesus' Actions
Tuesday	John 12:1-11	Jesus Anointed at Bethany
Wednesday	John 12:12-19	Jesus Enters Jerusalem
Thursday	John 12:20-36	Greeks Want to See Jesus
Friday	John 12:37-50	Many Are Scared to Admit Their Faith
Saturday	Isaiah 6:1-10	Isaiah's Prophecy about the People
Sunday	John 13:1-17	Jesus Serves

If your household includes younger children, use a child-friendly Bible. You might find that the children's Bible you are using may not include the very story assigned for the DAILY BIBLE READINGS. **Read to your kids anyway. Just pick a story!**

SERVICE CHALLENGE

SERVICE is how we enact God's great love for the entire world.

Buy a variety of paper products and donate items to a nearby food pantry.