

MAY 1, 2016  
SIXTH SUNDAY  
OF EASTER

# taking+ faith home

*Don't worry. I bring you peace.*

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 14:23-29	The sending of the Counselor
Monday	John 3:1-8	Born of the Spirit
Tuesday	Ezekiel 36:21-31	The Spirit promised to Israel
Wednesday	Luke 12:8-12	Jesus speaks of the Spirit
Thursday	Acts 1:1-11	Jesus taken up into Heaven
Friday	John 13:36—14:7	In the Father's house
Saturday	Psalms 143	May your Spirit lead me
Sunday	John 17:20-26	Jesus prays for the disciples

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"I give you peace, the kind of peace that only I can give. It isn't like the peace that this world can give. So don't be worried or afraid."

**John 14:27 (CEV)**

### **SAY, PRAY, AND BLESS:**

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Holy Spirit, please be our teacher. Help us to follow Jesus this week. Amen. (John 14:26)

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Come, Spirit of God, and on us rest, our table to grace, and our food to bless. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May God show grace to you and bless you. May God smile on you with kindness. Amen. (Psalm 67:1)



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## CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home or small group:

- Tell about a time that you felt a sense of peace that felt filled with God's presence.
- How might the peace that Jesus gives be different than the peace that is usually understood in daily life (John 14:27)?
- Jesus promises the coming of the Holy Spirit who is described as a companion who teaches us Jesus' message. Tell about a time the Holy Spirit seemed to walk alongside and teach you.

## DEVOTIONS



In Acts 16:13-15, Paul and his companions share their faith with a woman named Lydia, and the Lord opened her heart to the message that Paul gave. She then opened her home to Paul and his friends. Her home became a place to encourage one another in the faith (see verse 40). How does the Lord open your heart to hear the message of Jesus with faith? How is your home a place to nurture the Christian faith?

## SERVICE



When Lydia became a Christian, she invited the Apostle Paul and his companions into her home (Acts 16:15). Invite an individual or group into your home for Christian fellowship. Consider using portions of Taking Faith Home to encourage one another in the faith.

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



This Thursday (May 5th) is Ascension Day. In many Christian churches this day goes by virtually unnoticed, but it is actually one of the five great festivals of the church and has been celebrated since the fourth century. It marks the last earthly appearance of the Lord Jesus after his resurrection (Mark 16:19; Luke 24:50-53, and Acts 1:1-12). Ascension Day falls on the 40th day of the Easter season.

The ascension clarifies the meaning of resurrection. Jesus is the enthroned Lord of heaven and earth forevermore. Put a white or gold piece of cloth over a cross to recall the triumph of God's love over sin and death.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)