Cycle B - Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time - Feb. 4, 2024

'My life is but a breath of wind"

OPENING PRAYER (Psalm 147)

Leader: How good it is to sing praises to our God; For God is gracious and a song of praise is fitting.

All: God heals the brokenhearted, And binds up their wounds.

Leader: God determines the number of the stars; God gives to all of them their names.

All: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; God's understanding is beyond measure.



SHARING THE WORD

Gospel -- Mark 1:29-39

Numerous demands for healing create a problem for Jesus. He does not want people to be attracted to the miracles and worship him as a miracle worker, but rather he desires them to open their hearts to God's transforming love.

- 1. What in this passage attracts you to Jesus?
- 2. What is the difference between treating Jesus as a miracle worker and being open to God's transforming love?
- 3. How can we become a sign of God's transforming love in the world?

LIVING THE WORD

Which part of God's Word today challenges me/us this coming week?

PRAYING THE WORD

Intercession: We pray that our world looks to Christ as a model for freedom not based on entitlement but on surrendering ourselves trust in Jesus. We pay to the Lord... *Invite personal intentions...ending with "Our Father"* ..."

Closing Prayer:

Leader: Lord Jesus,

You came to heal us with transforming love.

All: We praise you

For your healing is everlasting.

Leader: We give thanks for your healing, which

helps us to endure the challenges and crises

in our lives.

All: Help us to bring your healing

to one another. Amen.

Leader: Let us offer each other a sign of Peace, a peace the world cannot give.