

## **Memorize & Ponder**

**Sunday, May 6, 2018**

**Who Gets to Participate?**

**Memorize & Ponder  
for the Week of Apr 29 - May 6, 2018  
(Full Readings – Ps 98 and Acts 10:44-48)**

### **Acts 10:45 (NRSV)**

**The circumcised believers who had come with Peter  
were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit  
had been poured out even on the Gentiles.**

*Throughout the coming Christian year, from Advent 2017 to Advent 2018, we will focus on the prophetic witness in the Hebrew Scriptures, what many Christians call the Older Testament. We will connect that prophetic literature with the teachings of Jesus and his early disciples/friends that are found throughout the writings of the New Testament. As a community, we will ponder the prophetic tradition's message for us in our age and context, just as Jesus did in his.*

*We invite you to **listen** for what the Spirit is saying in the text, then **question** how those insights might change the ways you see things and act in the world. Use the question on the back of this insert to provoke your thinking. We look forward to hearing the about those insights during our 'Words to Ponder' conversation in the worship service.*

## **Ponderings for the Friends of Jesus**

*Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us provoke one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together ... (Hebrews 10:23-25a)*

### **A Word for the Friends of Jesus to Ponder = Gentiles**

We invite you to give this word and the text/passage some prayerful pondering this week. By taking a few minutes each day to focus on these words in the context of the readings and your life, the Spirit will engage more deeply with you and nourish you to flourish in the grace of Jesus Christ. Do not hesitate to invite others into the conversation.

Here's a question that might help to focus your ponderings:

***What does this story say to you  
about the breadth of God's love  
and who gets to participate in God's mission?***

**Notes for participating in Christ's mission this week:**

**Remember to pray for the faithfulness of Brentwood  
in its mission this week.**