

## ENCOUNTER — SACRED ENCOUNTER

In every visit, every meeting I attend, every appointment I keep, I have been anticipated.

The risen Christ got there ahead of me. The risen Christ is in that room already. ...When I arrive and enter into the room I am not so much wondering what I am going to do or say that will be pastoral as I am alert and observant for what the risen Christ has been doing or saying that is making a gospel story out of this life. ...The theological category for this is provenience, the priority of grace. We are always coming in on something that is already going on...always we are dealing with what the risen Christ has already set motion, already brought into being."

Eugene H. Peterson, Under the Unpredictable Planet: An Exploration in Vocational Holiness, pp. 127-128

"He has risen. . . he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." Mark 16:6-7

**Read** [read passage twice]

*Silence 3-5 minutes\* - silently repeat a word or phrase that interests you...*

*Sharing aloud (if in group): Simply share the word or phrase that spoke to you. No elaboration.*

**Reflect** [read once]

*Silence 3-5 minutes - reflecting on "Where does this touch my life?"*

*Sharing aloud: "I hear, I see, I was struck by..."*

**Respond** [read once]

*Silence 3-5 minutes - reflecting on "How is God calling me to Respond?"*

*Sharing aloud: Briefly pray - spontaneously expressing your response to God's call.*

**Rest** [read once]

*Rest in God's grace, in silence 2-3 minutes*

\* The time allotted for each period of silence can vary.

### **Prompts:**

- 1) "Provenience" is pronounced like "convenience."
- 2) What is our attitude when breaking in upon something that has already been going on?
- 3) With Peterson's perspective, can we listen in new ways for Christ coming to us through others?

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