

God gives us the gift of conscience.

WE GATHER

✝ Lord, be with us.

Making decisions is part of everyone's life. Your family members have decisions to make. You have decisions to make, too. The choices that you make are up to you. What helps you to make good choices?

WE BELIEVE

God loves each of us and wants to share his life with us. He wants us to be close to him. If at times our choices lead us away from God, he calls us back to him. He calls us to turn away from sin and to live a life of goodness and love.

How do we know whether the things we do are good or sinful? To help us, God has given us a conscience. Our **conscience** is the ability to know the difference between good and evil, right and wrong. It is like an inner voice that helps us to choose good over evil.

Conscience works in three ways:

- It works *before* we make decisions. It helps us know what is good. It helps us consider the results of our choices.
- It works *while* we are making the decision. It brings about feelings of peace or discomfort depending on the choices we have made.
- It works *after* we make decisions. It enables us to judge, as good or evil, the decisions we have made.

God's gift of conscience guides us in our choices. It helps us to turn away from sin and to turn toward God.

Key Word

conscience the ability to know the difference between good and evil, right and wrong

