



A weekly reflection by members
of the Precious Blood Community

April 23, 2025

Sr. Joyce Lehman, C.P.P.S.

“...and they were filled with amazement and astonishment...”
(Acts 3:10)



Both readings for today’s liturgy might be templates for how we as people of the Precious Blood live and move and have our being in the world. Each story begins with people in need, people who have stories that need telling, stories of disappointment and despair, of crippling poverty. Jesus and Peter are the receivers who listen with attention and compassion. As the stories unfold, attention shifts from the story-teller to the listener who offers new insights: the Risen Jesus explores the prophecies about the Messiah, breaks bread and shares wine with the two disciples whose hearts burn within them; Peter professes Jesus and the power of the resurrected Christ and raises the crippled man to his feet. But that is not the end. In both cases the recipient of the grace of healing responds with joy and with action: the two disciples turn around in their tracks and rush back to Jerusalem to proclaim that they had seen the Risen Christ; the crippled man leaps up, walks around and praises God to the amazement of those around him.

We are, from time to time, both story-teller and listener:

- How do we tell our stories?
- Whom do we get to listen to us?
- When grace breaks through, what do we do?

When we are listener:

- How do we listen? With compassion or judgement?
- Are we open, trying to hear the place in that person's reality (not my own) where God's mercy and love can be proclaimed?
- Do we take the risk to speak, in words and in action, the compassion of God and the power of the Holy Spirit?

As both story-teller and listener,

- How do we express our amazement at the power of God in our lives and find opportunities to share that joy with others?

The power of the resurrection is always available to us. May our hearts burn within us, and may we leap for amazement and joy.

Sr. Joyce is a member of the Sisters of the Precious Blood of Dayton, OH. She is currently serving as their President. To learn more about the Sisters of the Precious Blood, [click here](#).

This weekly reflection is made available to everyone in our Precious Blood family.

Feel free to share it with others. Would you like to write a reflection?

If so, please contact Vicky Otto at votto@pbspiritualityinstitute.org