**Day 16 Devotions, March 5:**

OPENING PRAYER

Amazing Grace – Stanza 4

The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures;

He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.

*“His word my hope secures”*leads us into the scripture for today. *“In the*beginning*was the Word.”*The WORD in Greek is LOGOS.  It evokes the cosmic thought, the cosmic reason that gave order and structure to the universe from the Chaos of creation.  It also evokes the Word of God that came into the prophets of Israel as well as the concept of Wisdom, the female personification of God that came in later Jewish thought (see Proverbs 8 and 9).

These rich and varied associations for LOGOS come together to convey the Light that came into the world that darkness has not overcome.

SCRIPTURE

John 1:1-14

*In the beginning there was the Word; the Word was in God’s presence and the Word was God.*

*The Word was present to God from the beginning.*

*Through the Word all things came into being and apart from the Word nothing came into being that has come into being.*

*In the Word was life, and that life was humanity’s light—a Light that shines in the darkness, a Light that the darkness has never overtaken.*

*Then came one named John, sent as an envoy from God, who came as a witness to testify about the Light, so that through his testimony everyone might believe. He himself wasn’t the Light; he only came to testify about the Light—the true Light that illumines all humankind.*

*The Word was coming into the world—was in the world—and though the world was made through the Word, the world didn’t recognize it.  Though the Word came to its own realm, the Word’s own people didn’t accept it.  Yet any who did accept the Word, who believed in that Name, were empowered to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor urge of flesh nor human will—but born of God.*

*And the Word became flesh and stayed for a while among us; we saw the Word’s glory—the favor and position a parent gives an only child—filled with grace, filled with truth.*

The Greek word for FLESH is SARX.  The Word became flesh.  Jesus Christ, the Light of God, the Word of God, came to dwell among us and all of creation – not just humans – we are special, but God created all the world and Christ became part of that world when he entered the flesh (sarx).

May you know the Light that chases away all darkness.   May you witness to the Light, shine and reflect the Light.  God entered into flesh so we would know that we are not alone, so we would be at one with God and at one with one another.  That is the goal of the Kingdom of God – Peace, Oneness, Unity in Christ for all the world.