

# The Lord is Doing a New Thing! ~ Isaiah 43:14-19

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**Guidelines:** Protect confidentiality and follow the leader's prompts

## **Lectio Divina Rhythms/Process (Repeat three times):**

- (a) Read the Scripture passage ("Lectio")
- (b) Reflect on the focus question below ("Meditatio")
- (c) Respond in quiet prayer/journaling ("Oratio")
- (d) Rest in God's invitation for you then pray/share out loud if you want ("Contemplatio")

**Introduction:** Israel is far from God and suffering. Isaiah prophesies about the Messiah to come, the One who will have God's Spirit and bring justice and love to the nations. In the meantime, the Lord tells Israel to "fear not" because he is their Creator and Redeemer, he has called them by name and is with them in trouble. Even as he has delivered and blessed them in the past, he will do so again — he is doing a wonderful new thing! This new work of God will prepare the way for his greatest new work, the coming of Christ.

All the new and good things that God does in our lives are meant to reveal Christ to us.

**Opening Prayer:** "See the new things God is doing... Sing to the Lord a new song" (Isaiah 42:9-10, par.)

## **Read Scripture: Isaiah 43 (NIV)**

<sup>14</sup> This is what the Lord says — your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "For your sake I will send to Babylon and bring down as fugitives all the Babylonians, in the ships in which they took pride. <sup>15</sup> I am the Lord, your Holy One, Israel's Creator, your King."

<sup>16</sup> This is what the Lord says — he who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters, <sup>17</sup> who drew out the chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick: <sup>18</sup> "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. <sup>19</sup> See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** What is one word or phrase the Holy Spirit impresses on you? Meditate on that.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Enter into the Scripture passage. What do you feel? What specific situation in your life today relates? Write down a prayer or pray quietly.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Reading:** What new thing might God want to do in your life? You can write down what God seems to be saying to you or a prayer of thanks. Or simply rest quietly in God.