

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 13, 2012

Meditation on God's Word

"Love one another." A recipe for a happy and fruitful life? A "nice" way to treat our acquaintances, friends, family – even our enemies? A response to God's love for us? The Apostle John addresses this "love" statement in the following way: "This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." The manner in which we conduct our lives, manage our resources, will be reflected through the extent to which we follow this guide for life. Response to God's love by loving others is key.

1 John 4:1-11

Prelude

Basse et Dessus Trompette

Clerambault

Welcome and Announcements

Sharing of the Peace

Please bless each other as the family of Christ with these words:

"The Lord bless you." or "The Peace of the Lord be with you."

If you are able, please remain standing until the First Reading.

‡ Service of Confession and Absolution ‡

(Lutheran Service Book Page 151)

Opening Hymn

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

LSB 686

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ‡ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Exhortation

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and**

lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution

- Ⓐ Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **†** Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Ⓒ **Amen.**

† Service of the Word †

Entrance Hymn

What a Friend We Have in Jesus
LSB 770

Kyrie

- Ⓐ In peace let us pray to the Lord.



Ⓒ Lord, have mer - cy.

- Ⓐ For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Ⓒ Lord, have mer - cy.

- Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Ⓒ Lord, have mer - cy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.

Hymn of Praise

Gloria in Excelsis



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



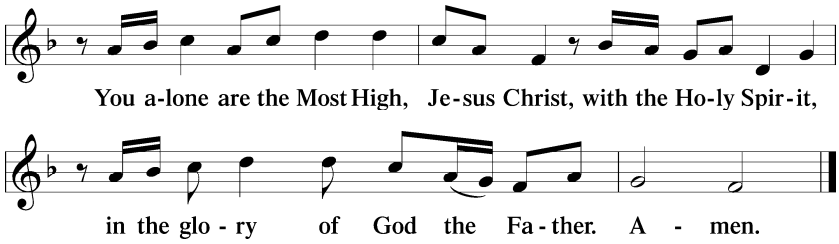
You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Please be seated

First Reading

Acts 10:34–48

So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear,

not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, “Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 John 5:1–8

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Vocal Choir *Can God Spread a Table in the Wilderness*

Please stand


Alleluia and Verse

Alleluia




☐ Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Verse



☐ These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia



☐ Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 15:9-17

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my

love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

Jesus said: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

LSB 159

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living
And the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Children's Message

Pastor Wartick

Sermon Hymn

Lord, 'Tis Not That I did Choose Thee
LSB 573

Sermon

God's "Gracious Choice"

John 15:12-13, 16

Offering of our Gifts

Voluntary

Morning Prayer

Tchaikovsky

Please stand

Offertory Hymn

When in Our Music God is Glorified
LSB 796

Prayer of the Church

- P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- P Lord God, heavenly Father, we offer before You our common supplications for the well-being of Your Church throughout the world. Send Your Holy Spirit into all the world to testify to Him who came by water and blood. Open the ears of all who hear the Gospel that they may receive it with joy and comfort and truth. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C **hear our prayer.**
- P Preserve our nation in peace and integrity. Grant health and wisdom to President Obama, Governor Kasich, and

for all who have been set into positions of leadership and authority, and help them to serve this people according to Your holy will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Guide us in our various vocations so that we may never forget that You are at work in us and through us as we love and serve our neighbor, and that You provide for us all that we need for body and soul. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Give honor and favor to all mothers, that we may love those whom You have used to bring us into this world and give us life. We thank You that, through the pain of childbirth and in sacrificing their time and energy, and sometimes their very lives, they have done a good work so that we might have life in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity (*especially* _____). Grant them healing, according to Your will, or give them strength to bear their afflictions in courage and hope. Bring consolation to those in sorrow, and bring us all to the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has overcome death. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, in Your Son You chose us and appointed us to go and bear fruit in the world. May we never doubt that whatever we ask in His name, You promise to give. All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good

LSB 819

Postlude

Trumpet Tune in B-flat

Wagner

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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