

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 24, 2016

Worship Focus

Love Received Turns into Love Given



YOUR STRONG
LOVE FOR EACH
OTHER WILL SHOW
TO THE WORLD
THAT YOU ARE MY
D.I.S.C.I.P.L.E.S

J O H N 1 3 : 3 5

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THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Service of the Word

Christian Worship, p. 38

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OPENING HYMN

576 - Spread, Oh, Spread the Mighty Word



1 Spread, oh, spread the might - y Word; Spread the
2 Tell them how the Fa - ther's will Made the
3 Tell of our Re - deem - er's love, Who for -
4 Tell them of the Spir - it giv'n Now to
5 Up! The rip - 'ning fields you see. Might - y



king - dom of the Lord Ev - 'ry - where his
world and keeps it still, How his on - ly
ev - er does re - move By his ho - ly
guide us on to heav'n, Strong and ho - ly,
shall the har - vest be, But the reap - ers



breath has giv'n Life to be - ings meant for heav'n.
Son he gave All from sin and death to save.
sac - ri - fice All the guilt that on us lies,
just and true, Work - ing both to will and do.
still are few; Great the work they have to do.

6 Lord of harvest, grant anew,
Joy and strength to work for you,
Till the gath'ring nations all
See your light and heed your call.

Text: Jonathan F. Bahnmaier, 1774-1841, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Tune: HOCHSTETER PRIESTER (77 77) *Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz*, Basel, 1745, alt.

INVOCATION

Minister The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation **And also with you.**



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray. O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will.

Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Acts 13:44-52

Even in the face of persecution, God's Word led many people to faith, filling Paul and Barnabas with joy and the Holy Spirit.

^{ACTS 13:44} On the next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. ⁴⁵ When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and talked abusively against what Paul was saying.

⁴⁶ Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: "We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. ⁴⁷ For this is what the Lord has commanded us:

“ ‘I have made you a light for the Gentiles,
that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.’ ”

⁴⁸ When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed.

⁴⁹ The word of the Lord spread through the whole region. ⁵⁰ But the Jews incited the God-fearing women of high standing and the leading men of the city. They stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their region. ⁵¹ So they shook the dust from their feet in protest against them and went to Iconium. ⁵² And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.


PSALM

Psalm 145

Refrain Tune: Richard Proulx. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL,
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Pastor will sing the first half of each verse. The congregation is asked to sing the second half of the verses, the refrain, and the Gloria.

Refrain



Lord, let your mer-cy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Psalm tone



Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;*

his greatness no one can fathom.

One generation will commend your works to another;*
they will tell of your mighty acts.

The LORD upholds all those who fall*
and lifts up all who are bowed down.

Refrain

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time.*
You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

The LORD is near to all who call on him,*
to all who call on him in truth.

He fulfills the desires of those who fear him;*
he hears their cry and saves them.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

SECOND LESSON Revelation 21:1-6

In his great love for us God is preparing a New Heaven and Earth where he will live with us and comfort us forever.

REVELATION 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴ He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

⁶ He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life.

VERSE OF THE DAY

**You are the way, the truth, the life;
Grant us that way to know,
That truth to keep, that life to win
Whose joys eternal flow. (356:4)**

all things
new
new

GOSPEL John 13:31-35

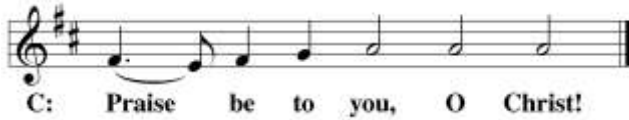
Jesus' love for us brings glory to God and creates love for one another within us.

³¹ When he was gone, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him. ³² If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.

³³ "My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

³⁴ "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*"By this all people will know
that you are my disciples, if you
have love for one another."*

JOHN 13:35, ESV



HYMN OF THE DAY

497 - This Is My Will



1 "This is my will, my one com - mand,
 2 "No great - er love can an - y have;
 3 "I call you now no long - er slaves;
 4 "You chose not me, but I chose you,
 5 "All that you ask my Fa - ther dear



That love should dwell a - mong you all.
 Than that one die to save his friends.
 No slave knows all the mas - ter does.
 That you should go and bear much fruit.
 For my name's sake you shall re - ceive.



This is my will, that you should love
 You are my friends if you o - bey
 I call you friends, for all I hear
 I chose you out, that you in me
 This is my will, my one com - mand,



As I have shown that I love you.
 What I com - mand that you should do.
 My Fa - ther say, you hear from me.
 Should bear much fruit that will a - bide.
 That love should dwell in each, in all."

Text: James Quinn, b. 1919, alt. © 1969 James Quinn, SJ (admin. Selah Publishing Co.). All rights reserved.
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Tune: SUANTRAI (LM) Gaelic melody, c. 19th century.

SERMON

Revelation 21:1-6

The Philanthropy of God's New World Order

CONFESSION OF FAITH – THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there 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.**

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERTORY



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M Let us pray to our God and Father who promises to give whatever we ask in the name of Jesus.

Brief silence

M Almighty God, continue to send forth the Spirit of truth upon Your Church so that we might hear Your Word and glorify Your Son. Grant Your blessing upon Your people here and wherever You gather them. Sustain us in the faith by Your Means of Grace, and strengthen us in knowledge and boldness to confess Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

M Heavenly Father, grant that Your Holy Spirit might comfort us in these gray and latter days. As it is given to Your people to suffer tribulation and persecution, grant that we might know such things to be birth pains that anticipate the Last Day, and preserve us by Your grace until our sorrow is turned to joy. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

M Holy God, You gave Your Son for all, that You might declare all who believe in Him to be clean before You. Look upon the enemies of Your Church; confound their plans to do Your people harm, and move them to repentance so that they, too, might have life in Jesus' name. Preserve Your people from bitterness or fear that would lead us to hate and stand in Your way, for You desire to give the same gift to them as You gave to all who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

M O Lord, our Creator and Redeemer, we give thanks to You for the beautiful visions of heaven that You have revealed to us through St. John. We ask Your blessing upon all those whom You have gifted in the arts, that their works and words might proclaim the beauty of Your works even in the midst of this fallen world and move us in Christ to eager expectation of the new heaven and the new earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

M O God, we give thanks to You for Your faithfulness to the saints who have gone before us, that in Christ their mourning and crying and pain are all former things that have passed away. As You have cleansed us with the water of life, so keep us in faith and hope until that day when You wipe away every tear from our eyes. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

M Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through faith in Christ Jesus.

C **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**



1 Songs of praise the an - gels sang, Heav'n with
 2 Songs of praise a - woke the morn When the
 3 Heav'n and earth must pass a - way; Songs of
 4 And shall man a - lone be still? Has he
 5 Saints be - low, with heart and voice, Still in



al - le - lu - ias rang, When cre - a - tion was be -
 Prince of Peace was born. Songs of praise a - rose when
 praise shall crown that day. God will make new heav'ns and
 nei - ther breath nor skill? No, the Church de - lights to
 songs of praise re - joice, Learn - ing here, by faith and



gun, When God spoke and it was done.
 he Cap - tive led cap - tiv - i - ty.
 earth; Songs of praise shall hail their birth.
 raise Psalms and hymns and songs of praise.
 love, Songs of praise to sing a - bove.

6 Whispered with their final breath,
 Songs of praise shall conquer death.
 Then, amidst eternal joy,
 Songs of praise their pow'rs employ.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.
 Tune: INNOCENTS (77 77) French melody, 13th century.

I
 give
 you
 a
 new
 com-
 mand-
 ment

PRAYER

M Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

M Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



**The Lord
Make His
Face Shine
Upon You &
be Gracious
to You.**

Numbers 6:24-25

CLOSING HYMN

492 – Son of God, Eternal Savior



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior,
 2 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us,
 3 Bind us all as one to - geth - er
 4 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers,



Source of life and truth and grace, Word made
 King of love and Prince of Peace; Hush the
 In your Church's sa - cred fold, Weak and
 So may we for oth - ers live. Free - ly



flesh, whose birth a - mong us, Hon - ors
 storm of strife and pas - sion; Bid its
 health - y, poor and wealth - y, Sad and
 have your gifts been grant - ed; Free - ly



all our hu - man race, You our head,
 cru - el dis - cords cease, By your pa -
 joy - ful, young and old, Is there want -
 may your ser - vants give, Yours the gold



who, throned in glo - ry, For your own will
 tient years of toil - ing, By your si - lent
 or pain or sor - row? Make us all the
 and yours the sil - ver, Yours the wealth of

(Stanzas continue on the next page)

ev - er plead: Fill us with your love and
 hours of pain, Quench our fe - vered thirst for
 bur - den share, Are there spir - its crushed and
 land and sea; We but stew - ards of your
 pit - y; Heal our wrongs and help our need.
 plea - sure; Stem our self - ish greed for gain.
 bro - ken? Teach us, Lord, to soothe their care.
 boun - ty Held in sol - emn trust will be.

Text: Somerset T. C. Lowry, 1855–1932, abr., alt.
 Tune: LORD, REVIVE US (87 87 D) *The Revivalist*, Troy, NY, 1868.

After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.

