

6th Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 17, 2020
8:30 am & 11:00 am



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
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In the words of the psalmist: “Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard” (Psalm 66:8). Welcome to worship.



GATHERING

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

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

P: Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

PASTORAL GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

HYMN OF PRAISE



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



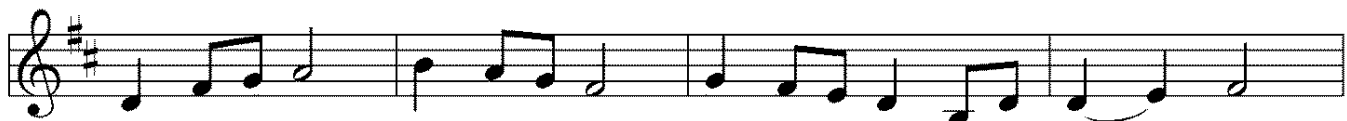
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



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



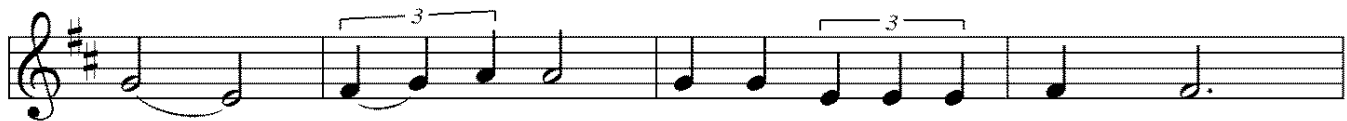
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



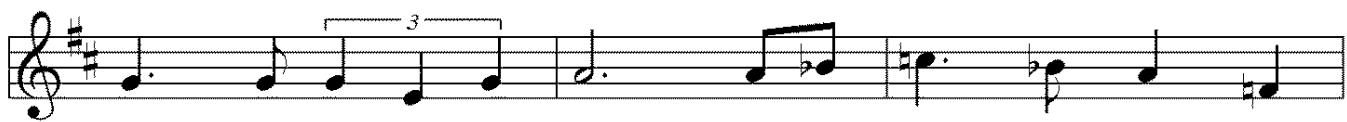
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



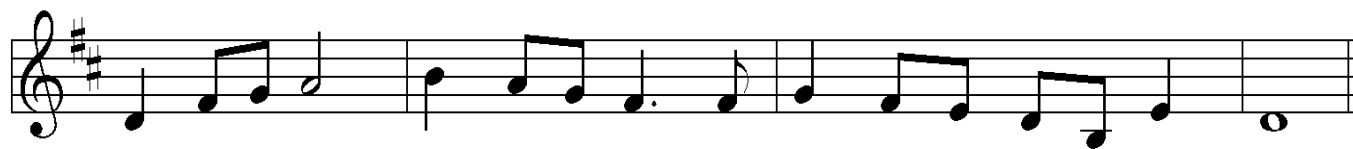
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



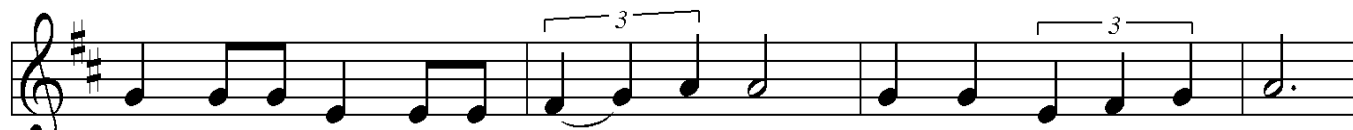
right hand of the Fa - ther: re- ceive our prayer.



C Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



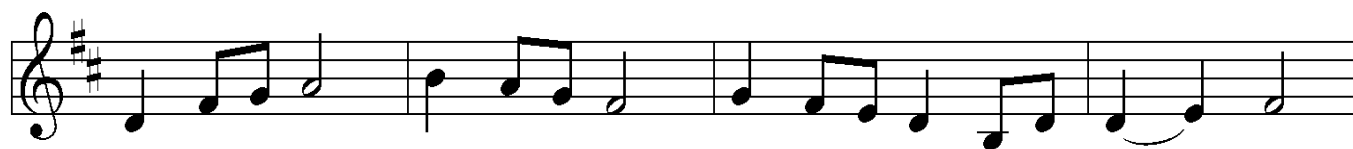
I For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
II



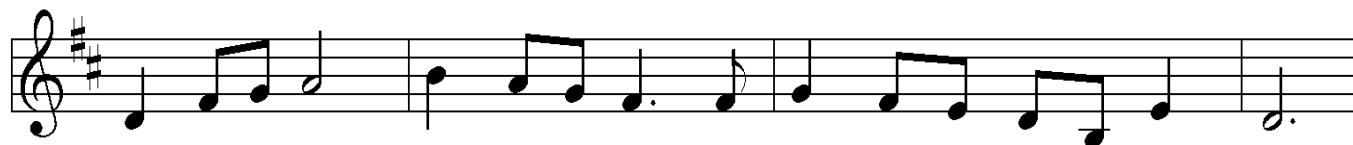
you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.



C Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good things come: Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to think those things which are right, and by your goodness help us to do them; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

CHILDRENS SERMON

FIRST READING: Acts 17:22-31

L: The First Lesson is from Acts the 17th chapter, beginning at the 22nd verse:

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.

²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 66:7-18

⁷Bless our God, you peoples;
make the voice of his praise to be heard,

⁸**who holds our souls in life,
and will not allow our feet to slip.**

⁹For you, O God, have proved us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹⁰**You brought us into the snare;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹¹You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹²**I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows,
which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in
trouble.**

¹³I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.

¹⁴**Come and listen, all you who fear God,
and I will tell you what he has done for me.**

¹⁵I called out to him with my mouth,
and his praise was on my tongue.

¹⁶**If I had found evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;**

¹⁷but in truth God has heard me;

he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

¹⁸**Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld his love from me.**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

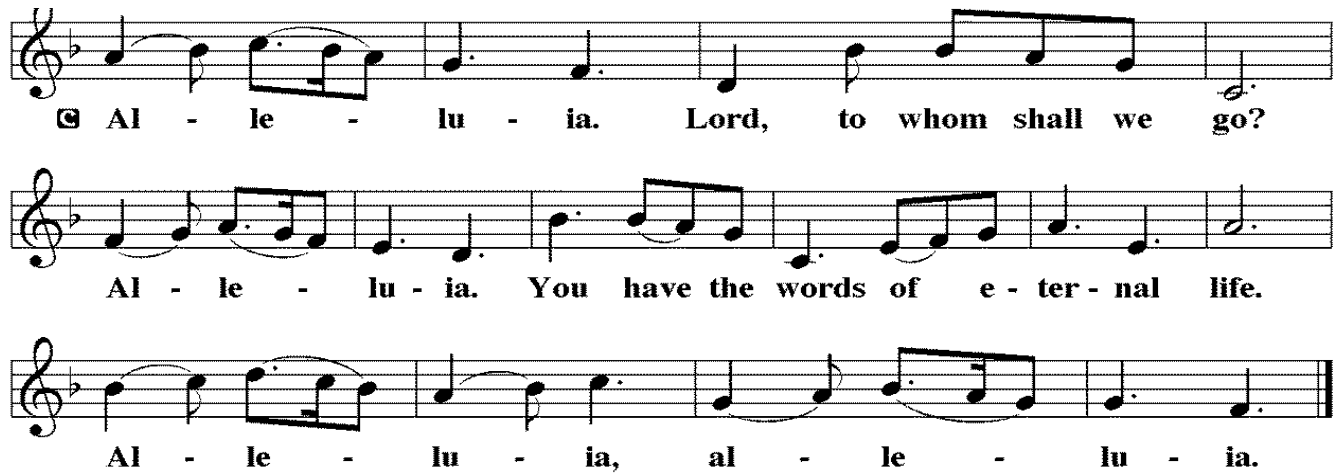
L: The Second Lesson is from 1 Peter the 3rd chapter, beginning at the 13th verse:

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the 14th chapter, beginning at the 15th verse:

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

APOSTLE'S CREED

A: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Abiding God, you have revealed yourself to us in the form of your Son, Jesus Christ. Embolden your church, as your followers, to reveal your love to everyone in our speaking and in our living. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You are the creator of heaven and earth. Revitalize the health of oceans, rivers, lakes, springs, glaciers, and other bodies of water that give life to your creatures. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to the oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: You come near to us when we are lost, and you hear our distress. We pray for those who suffer in any way..... Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Gracious God, watch over and care for all persons who serve in the military..... Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Your commands are good and merciful. Give us courage to take hold of our baptismal promises to work for justice, advocate for the voiceless, and free the oppressed and imprisoned in body, mind, or spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You remain with us always, O God, and your kingdom has no end. We remember the saints who have gone before us. Unite us forever in your final victory over death. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

Gathering of Offerings

Offertory

Presentation of our Gifts

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray.....Merciful God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
 who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
 who preached good news to the poor,
 and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.
In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
 we await his coming in glory.
Pour out your Holy Spirit,
 that by this Holy Communion we may know
 the unity we share with all your people
 in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C: **Our Father, who art in heaven,**
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,

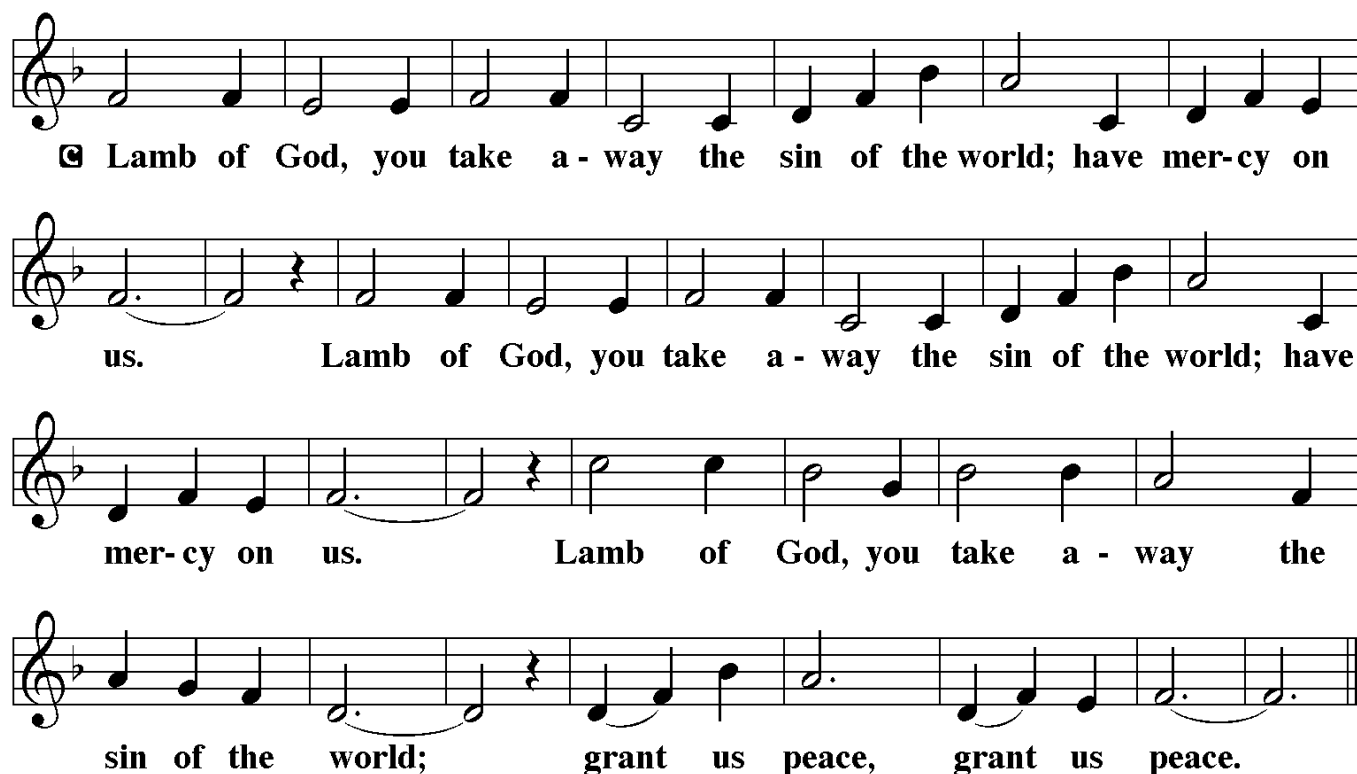
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

We welcome you to the Lord's Table to share the Sacrament of Holy Communion with us. Holy Communion is served with both red wine and white apple juice. It is your choice to receive either one.

Empty cups may be placed in the bowl to the left or right as you return to your seat.

COMMUNION CANTICLE



☩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

THANKSGIVING CANTICLE



☪ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

A: Let us pray.... Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

C: Amen

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

I'll Not Turn Away

It's all about the relationship of love. Love is the first and the greatest of commandments, according to Jesus. This is the gospel of the Lord!

The two men seemed dissimilar in almost every way: their color, their age, their education and careers, their families and sexuality, the worlds they knew and the lives they had lived. All of it registered as a natural, albeit unconsidered, divide. When circumstances they could never have anticipated brought them together, the two began to accompany one another through years of capsized lives. They walked side by side in body and spirit, carrying along one another's stories, fears, losses, regrets, and joys, each daring to let them slip into his heart. Amid the ebb and flow of seasons, the unlikely companions discovered in one another stories that were their own. Something of each of them was in the other.

Call this grace: the wretched demons of loneliness that had haunted both men stumbled, adrift in the wake of the companions' fellowship.

Still, they knew that parting was ahead. The days of walking, conversing, and trusting the companionship would soon come to an end. So they began to speak of their impending separation in this way: "This is my promise: I'll see you on the other side of this." It was repeated with other words, which always meant "I will not turn away from you." Call this the gospel story.

Grace is found in mystery, when strange circumstances confound expectations. Love is found in experience, when trust is discovered and nurtured. In a form we are not looking for, another—the Advocate, Comforter, Counselor, Spirit—will come to us.

"I will not leave you orphaned," says Jesus. "I am coming to you" (John 14:18). It's all about the relationship of love.