

2. Let us love the One who loves us,
that Great Love who loved us first.
No excuses, no evasion,
let us love our God like this:
Love with passion and abandon -
without pause and without cause -
every last child that is loved by
that great Parent of us all.

3. Let us love all who are loved by
that Great Love who loves us all
no exception, nor omission,
let us love them one and all.
Love the stranger, love the outcast,
love the beggar and the thief;
Undeserved we have been loved,
let us give as we receive.

4. Let us in love share that same love,
that Great Love we have received;
without reason or condition
let us love as we are loved.
It's the love that gives away all,
it's the friend that lays life down.
Oh how precious to be loved thus!
Spread it 'round, let love abound.

Words: Brenton Prigge © 2009



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6th Sunday of Easter

5th May 2024

GATHERING HYMN: 'Jesus Calls Us Here to Meet Him' – (336)

COLLECT:

Risen Christ,
by the lakeside you renewed
your call to your disciples:
help your Church to obey your command
and draw the nations to the fire of your love,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen



FIRST READING

Acts 10: 44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

SECOND READING

1 John 5: 1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the

water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL HYMN— ‘A New Commandment I Give Unto You’ – (34)

We sing the final verse after the Gospel Reading

GOSPEL

John 15: 9—17

As the Father has loved me, so I have 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. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

‘This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.



This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE GIFTS: ‘Love is His Word’ – (429)

COMMUNION HYMNS:

‘This is My Body’ – (663)

‘Break Not the Circle’

Break not the circle of enabling love
where people grow, forgiven and forgiving;
break not that circle - make it wider still,
till it includes, embraces all the living.

Come, wonder at this love that comes to life,
where words of freedom are with humour spoken
and people keep no score of wrong and guilt,
but will that human bonds remain unbroken.

Come, wonder at the One who came and comes
to teach the world the craft of hopeful craving
for peace and wholeness that will fill the earth:
Christ calls his people to creative living.

Join then the movement of the love that frees,
till people of whatever race or nation
will truly be themselves, stand on their feet,
see eye to eye with laughter and elation.

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POST COMMUNION

God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life:
may we thirst for you,
the spring of life and source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

FINAL HYMN: **That Great Love** – Brenton Prigge © 2009

I. Let us in love share that same love,
that Great Love we have received;
without reason or condition
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it's the friend that lays life down.
Oh how precious to be loved thus!
Spread it 'round, let love abound.