

Commanded to Love?



Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 9, 2021

Meditation & Prelude – Tomasz Piątak, organ

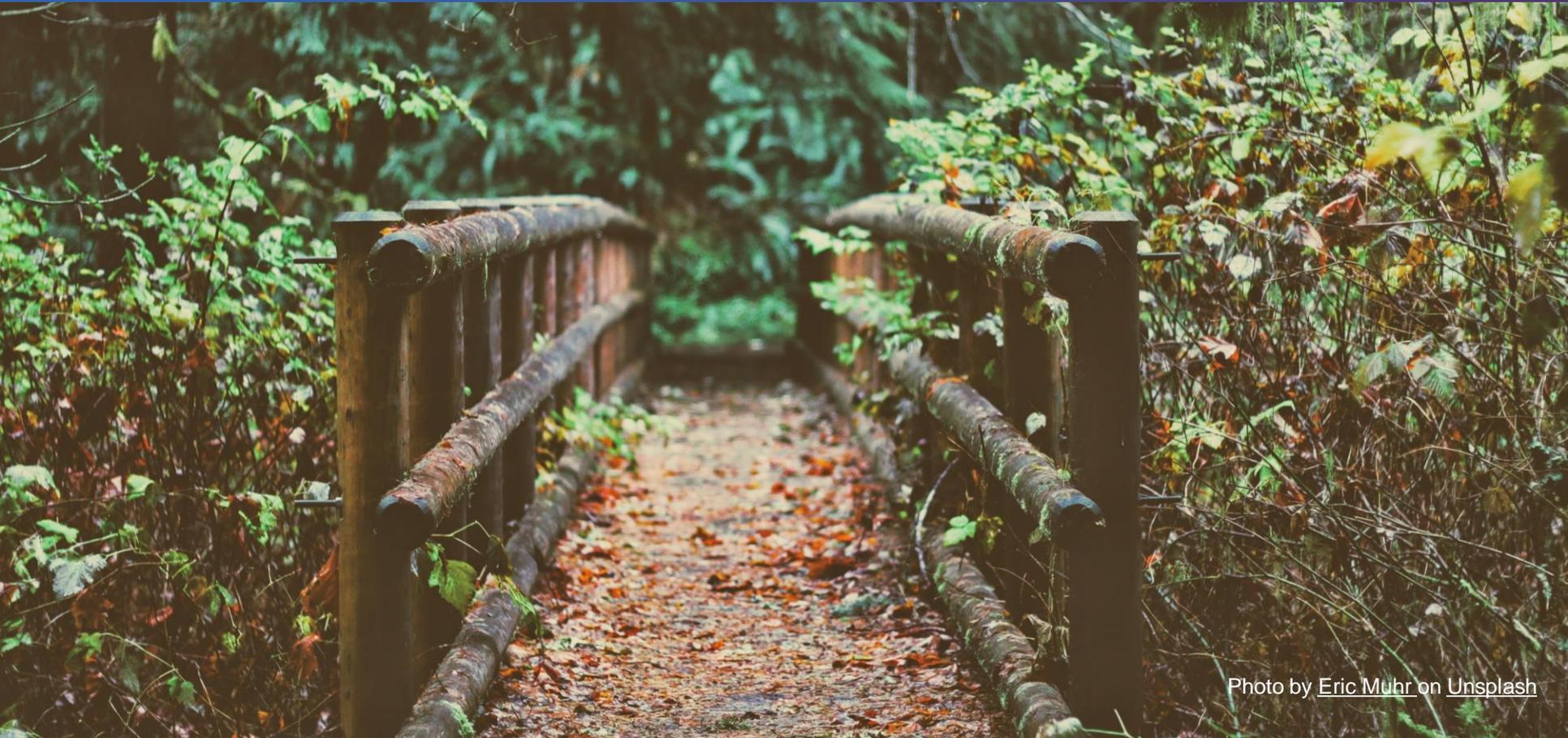
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Welcome and peace

Wash and Pray

Opening Song

Lighting Candles



Wash and Pray

wash & pray

Scientific studies have shown that thoroughly washing your hands with soap and warm water for 20-30 seconds helps prevent the spread of germs. Coincidentally, the Lord's Prayer takes about 30 seconds to say aloud or in your head. So next time you're washing your hands, use that half minute to pray AND help prevent the spread of germs!



0 Our Father in heaven,



1 hallowed be your name,



2 your kingdom come,
your will be done,



3 on earth as in heaven.



4 Give us today our daily
bread.



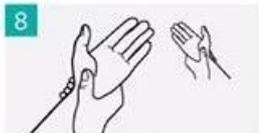
5 Forgive us our sins



6 as we forgive those who
sin against us.



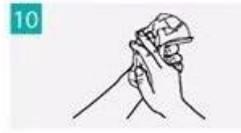
7 Lead us not into
temptation



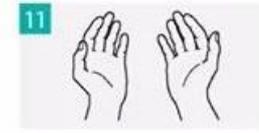
8 but deliver us from evil.



9 for the kingdom, the
power, and the glory are
yours



10 now and forever.



11 Amen.

Opening Song – *The Gift of Love*

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

LOVE AND GRATITUDE

The Gift of Love

526

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of G major and 2/2 time. The score consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

1. Though I may speak with brav - est fire,
2. Though I may give all I pos - sess,
3. Come, Spir - it, come, our hearts con - trol,

and have the gift to all in - spire,
and striv - ing so my love pro - fess,
our spir - its long to be made whole.

and have not love, my words are vain,
but not be given by love with - in,
Let in - ward love guide ev - ery deed;

as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.
the prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.
by this we wor - ship, and are freed.

WORDS: Hal H. Hopson, 1972
MUSIC: Traditional English melody; adapt. Hal H. Hopson, 1972

GIFT OF LOVE
LM

© 1972 Hope Publishing Co.

Alt. tune: O WALY WALY

Candles



Photo by Kitty McKinsey

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Jesus Loves Me

First Reading – Acts 10:44-48

Read by Anne Storey

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. ⁴⁵ The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. ⁴⁶ For they heard them speaking in tongues^[a] and praising God.

Then Peter said, ⁴⁷ “Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.” ⁴⁸ So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days. (NIV)

Gospel - John 15:9-17

Read by Anne Storey

⁹ “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. ¹⁷ This is my command: Love each other.

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 98 – A psalm

Sung by Chanda Rule

Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. 2 The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. 3 He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. 4 Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; 5 make music to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing, 6 with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn— shout for joy before the Lord, the King. 7 Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it. 8 Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy; 9 let them sing before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Song

Make a Joyful Noise

*Make a joyful noise all the earth!
Worship your God with gladness.
Make a joyful noise all the earth.
Come to this place with a song!*

Know that your God has made you.
Know it's to God we belong.
And come to this place with joyfulness and
praise.
Worship your God with a song! R

Make a joyful noise all the earth!
Worship your God with gladness.
Make a joyful noise all the earth.
Come to this place with a song! R

Enter these gates, thanks giving.
Enter these courts with praise.
Sing thanks to your God and bless the holy
Name.
Worship your God with a song! R

Ages through endless ages,
seasons of endless years,
the love of our Maker ever shall endure.
Worship your God with a song!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H5hoeObqNGc>

Linnea Good

Sermon:

Can we be
commanded to
love?

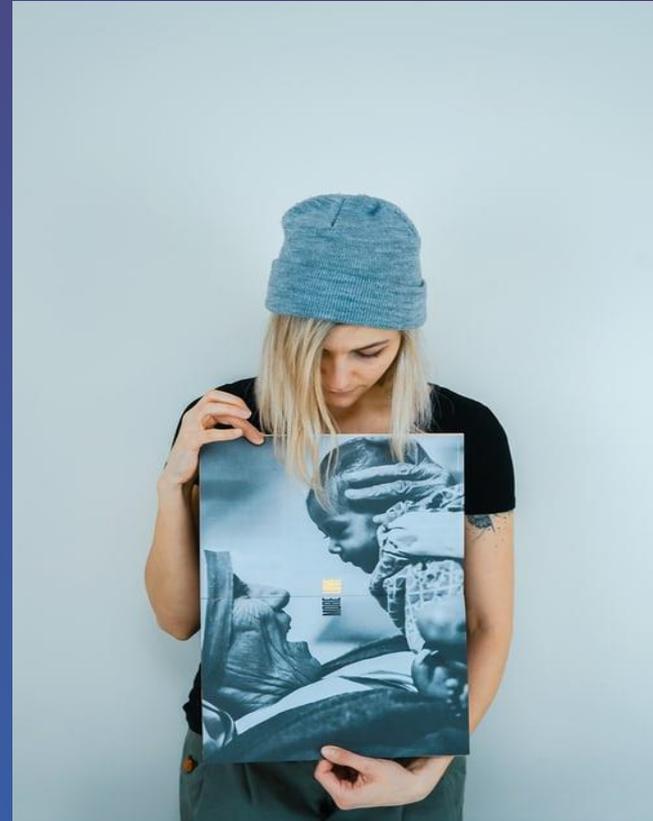


Photo by Toa Heftiba (Unsplash)

Responsive Song

We are One in the Spirit

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
And we pray that all unity will one day be restored.

Chorus: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

We Will work with each other, we will work side by side;
We will work with each other, we will work side by side;
And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride.

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come;
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son.
And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one.

Cassandra McConnell, Soprano

Tomasz Piątek, Organ

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a vibrant red long-sleeved dress, stands in a field of tall grass. She is shown in profile, looking upwards with her hands clasped in prayer. The background is a soft-focus landscape of trees and a pale sky, suggesting a serene, natural setting. The lighting is soft, highlighting the woman's features and the texture of her dress.

Prayers

Photo by [Diana Simumpande](#) on
[Unsplash](#)



The Lord's Prayer

Photo by [Aaron Burden](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Offering

Solo by

Tomasz

Piątak





Doxology

Praise God from whom all
blessings flow
Praise God all creatures
here below
Praise God above ye
heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and
Holy Ghost

Announcements

Closing Hymn

What A Friend We Have In Jesus

Tomasz Piqtak, Organ

1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
oh, what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.

2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer!

3 Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge,
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.

A prayer as I put on my mask:

Creator,

as I prepare to go into the world,
help me to see the sacrament
in the wearing of this cloth -
let it be "an outward sign
of an inward grace" -
a tangible and visible way of living
love for my neighbours,
as I love myself.

Christ,

since my lips will be covered,
uncover my heart,
that people would see my smile
in the crinkles around my eyes.

Since my voice may be muffled,
help me to speak clearly,
not only with my words,
but with my actions.

Holy Spirit,

As the elastic touches my ears,
remind me to listen carefully -
and full of care -
to all those I meet.

May this simple piece of cloth be
shield and banner,
and each breath that it holds,
be filled with your love.

In your Name and in that love, I pray.
May it be so. May it be so.



Blessing

Go in peace to love and
serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God



AMEN

Organ/Sung

Postlude - Tomasz Piątak

Postlude for Zoom

They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zJQHjcCwPvI>

Shawn Allen, Vocals and Piano Torrence Jackson,
Vocals Steve Mutuku, Bass Guitar

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