

Worship on May 15, 2022 (CCLI: License Number #3156883)
(Welcoming Elder: Kevin Johnston)

Sunday Order of worship (Mother's Day)

We Gather

- Welcome and Announcements
- Call to worship
- Praise song – BOP 255 Now let the vault of heaven resound
- Prayer for worship + Lord's Prayer
- Words of Assurance
- Prayer for our children
- Praise song – BOP 639 We are marching

We Listen

- Prayer for illumination
- Scripture: John 13:31-35
- Sermon: Love one another in Jesus' way
- The Prayer for the People of God

We Respond

- Offering & Dedication
- Song for the Journey – BOP 634 Will you come and follow me

We Serve

- Benediction

Announcements:

. Grace and peace to you all who are worshipping God with us today. This is Sunday, May 15th.
As we worship our faithful Father God, let his love fill our hearts.
. There will be coffee after worship. Please stay and connect.
. Rev. Soong has his office hours on Wednesday from 9am-12pm.
. Prayer is unseen, yet powerful. If you have prayer needs, please let us know.
Cheryl Daddis @ cheryl@pathcom.com or Soong @ revsoonghuh@hotmail.com
. Please help Ukraine with donation and prayer. Please pray for the people who are suffering from war.
. Thank you for your continuing support with your gifts. As we offer our gifts to the Lord, let us give our hearts and our lives to the Lord as well. May God be in the centre of your hearts.

As we come into the presence of our God, let us open our hearts and minds,
and focus on our Lord and King.

Responsive Call to Worship

One: Praise the Lord!

All: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

One: Praise God, all you angels; praise God, all creatures high and low!

All: Rulers of the earth and all peoples, praise God's holy name!

One: Young men and women alike, old and young together!

All: With voices united, let us praise the Lord!

Praise song – BOP 255 Now let the vault of heaven resound

<u>Vs. 1</u> Now let the vault of heaven resound in praise of love that doth abound, “Christ hath triumphed, hallelujah; Sing choirs of angels, loud and clear, Repeat their song of glory here, Christ hath triumphed, Christ hath triumphed! Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah	<u>Vs. 2</u> Eternal is the gift he brings; Wherefore our heart with rapture sings “Christ hath triumphed, Jesus liveth!” Now doth he come and give us life Now doth his presence still all strife through his triumph; Jesus reigneth! Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah
<u>Vs. 3</u> Oh fill us, Lord, with dauntless love; Set heart and will on things above, That we conquer through thy triumph, Grant grace sufficient for life's day, That by our life we ever say, “Christ hath triumphed, and he liveth!” Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah	<u>Vs. 4</u> Adoring praises now we bring, And with the heavenly blessed sing, “Christ hath triumphed, hallelujah!” Be to the Father and our Lord, To Spirit blest, most holy God! Thine the glory never ending! Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah

Prayer For Adoration and Confession

Holy God, the first and the last, beginning and end of all things,
you are worthy of praise from all your creation. Sun, moon, and stars praise you.
Earth, sea, and sky praise you. Every living thing praises you in its own way.
And so we praise you in our human diversity, joining our varied voices with all your creatures in
heaven and on earth. You fill our lives with the wonder of your love in Christ Jesus.
Your Spirit moves throughout the world to reveal your purposes for every living thing.
Receive our prayers and praise this day, for you are the Source of our life and our hope, Holy
God, ever Three and Ever One.

Loving Father God, Jesus commanded us to love one another so the world would know we
follow him. Yet we confess that we do not always love one another, not the way Jesus loves us.
The world has seen our squabbling, our history of hypocrisy, and our lack of compassion for
those who don't measure up. Loving God, forgive us. Lord Jesus, continue to love us. Holy
Spirit, fill us with love, so that the world will witness your love in our words and actions.

This time we come to you in prayer that you taught us how to pray: (The Lord's Prayer:)
**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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the
kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Sisters and brothers in Christ, Jesus taught us that no one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. Christ has laid down his life for us and invites us to love one another as he has loved us. Let us rejoice in his forgiving love and share it with each other day by day. Peace of the Lord be with you. Let us take few moments to greet each other and share our peace.

Prayer for children and youth

Gracious and loving Father God, thank you for your love for these precious children and youth. As they form their thoughts and minds and bodies, be with them. Pour out your wisdom and your love upon them, so they may be filled with you. Teach them your Lordship. And hold their hands and walk with them all the time. Guide their everyday life and be glorified through them. In Jesus' precious name, we pray. Amen.

Praise Song: BOP 639 We are marching

We are marching in the light of God; we are marching in the light of God (x 2)
We are marching, marching, we are marching, marching, we are marching in the light of God

Prayer for Illumination:

O God, your Word is our source of hope and truth in a world filled with deception.
Fill us with your Spirit as we listen to your Word read and interpreted,
so that it satisfies our thirst for wisdom and truth. Amen.

Scripture: John 13:31-35

31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32 If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 33 Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' 34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

"This is the word of the Lord / Thanks be to God."

SERMON: Love one another in Jesus' way

Today's sermon title is "**Love one another in Jesus' way.**"

This is table talk of Jesus and his disciples. Just before today's scripture, Jesus said that he will be betrayed by Judah Iscariot. Embarrassed, Judah went out. Although Judah's gone, the conversation continued.

V31, **When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32 If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once.**

Son of man is an expression of referring Jesus himself. So, now Jesus has been glorified and God has been glorified in Jesus. If God has been glorified in Jesus, God will also glorify Jesus in God himself and will glorify Jesus at once.

What does this mean?

How do we become glorified? How do we get praise from others?

Making some greatness: becoming famous, being respected, making a lot of money, becoming strong, or achieving great success, like sport record.

Then, how are we glorified by someone?

By our children, by our students, by someone who carry out the value which comes from us.

Then, by the followers, the teacher is being glorified. Also, because the followers displayed the great value of the teacher, the both, the teacher and the followers are glorified.

Servant and master relationship or children and parents relationship or student and teacher relationship.

Then, what is the core value here? What is Jesus talking about?

What is the core message of Jesus here?

V33, Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.'

It feels like Jesus is saying some kind of his last word. I will be gone soon and you cannot come with me. This gives the impression that Jesus is going to say something very important.

V34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

What is Jesus saying? Love. Love one another.

This is not new. **Leviticus 19:18, "You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord."**

From Old Testament, Mosaic commandment, clearly states that love your neighbour.

Then, why did Jesus say that he was giving the disciples the new commandment as his last word?

V34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

Love one another – once.

Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another – twice.

It is so important to love one another that Jesus said twice. His command is new because of one condition: "JUST AS I HAVE LOVED YOU."

This is why this command is new.

Mosaic commands are to love the Lord with all your power and to love your neighbour as yourself. But, here, Jesus's own love and teaching deepen and transform these commands. Jesus even taught to love our enemies. **Matthew 5:43-44, "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I say to you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you"**

Neighbour? Enemy? Different! Keep this difference in mind.

In light of Jesus' subsequent death, "just as I have loved you" implies a love that is even willing to lay down one's life for another.

John 15, 12 “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15 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. 16 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. 17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

Jesus sets the new standard of love: Jesus’ selfless love for his disciples. Jesus was not asking them to do anything he had not already done. Jesus showed new kind of love and asked his disciples to do the same.

Loving enemy teaches the range and depth of love.

What is the range of our love? What is the depth of our love?

Love yourself. Love your family. Love your community. Love your enemy.

(hand gesture-increase the range)

Do you see the increase of the range of love?

Love that you can buy him a coffee. Love that you can buy him a hot dog.

Love that you can buy him a steak. Love that you can give him your car.

Love that you can give him your life.

Do you see the deepening of love?

What is our love?

How wide is our love? How deep is our love?

And how wide is the love of Jesus? How deep is the love of Jesus?

Jesus is asking to love like he loved us.

Romans 5:10, **“while we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son”**

When we love with the range of Jesus and the depth of Jesus, then love is to be the distinguishing mark of Jesus’ followers. And this is the last word of Jesus to his disciples.

After this teaching of Jesus, Peter asked Jesus where he was going. **36 Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, where are you going?” Jesus answered, “Where I am going, you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward.” 37 Peter said to him, “Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.” 38 Jesus answered, “Will you lay down your life for me? Very truly, I tell you, before the cock crows, you will have denied me three times.**

Jesus just gave his disciples his last command. But, right after that, this is the story of failure.

This is a great encouragement for us. Even though Jesus commanded to his disciples, they fall.

Jesus prophesized Peter’s failure.

Listen to the answer of Jesus. **“Where I am going, you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward.”** You will follow me when you received the Holy Spirit. You will be able to love like me when you are filled with the Holy Spirit. You will have the range and depth of Jesus’ love when the Holy Spirit is with you.

We are to love one another. How? Just as Jesus loved us. Jesus is Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Jesus promised us to send the Holy Spirit. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we are able to truly follow Jesus' steps.

Admit our failures. Rely upon the Holy Spirit. With the Holy Spirit within us, let us love like Jesus loves us.

This is the word of the Lord for us today.

The Prayer for the People of God

Precious Jesus, thank you for dying on the cross. Thank you for loving us. Thank you for inviting us in your presence. Lord, Jesus, help us empty ourselves. We are focusing our inner desires too much. We follow our hearts.

Have mercy on us. We are weak. We fall. We change all the time. We are influenced by all the things around us. We are that unreliable.

But, you are like a Rock. You are solid rock which we can build our lives upon. You are faithful. You are unshakable. You are strong. You are caring. You are holding us with your mighty hands. Your love has no bound. Your love covers the whole us. Your love is patient. Gracious Jesus, we rely upon your love. Thank you.

As we pray, align our hearts' desires to yours, so we may follow you.

Merciful Father God, we pray for our church. We are yours. We are your hands and feet. Change our hearts. Be in the centre of our hearts. Lead and guide our lives. Our hearts are not reliable, only you are unchanging and are faithful.

As we worship you, change our hearts. Touch our hearts. In your presence, help us lay down all our worries and our own thoughts and feelings. And help us fill us with you alone.

We are praying for the people who are suffering with their physical illnesses. You are the Healer. Touch their bodies and remove their illnesses. Recover their health. Give them encouragement and peace in their hearts.

We pray for the people who have relational struggles. You are the Prince of Peace. Let us lift our worries and concerns up to your hands. You are the Bridge between all relationships. Help us have you in our relationships.

We pray for the people who are in difficult situations. We invite you in all our circumstances. We are confessing your Lordship over all things. Help us give all to you and have peace. We are yours. Use us in your wills and be glorified through our lives.

In Jesus' precious and powerful name, we pray. Amen.

Invitation to the offering: This is the time for offering. The season of Easter is unfolding while the gifts of spring also remind us of God's generosity in Christ and in creation. May God bless the gifts we offer our gratitude for God's goodness to us, and the hope for new life we have in Christ Jesus. Let us pray for our offering.

Offering prayer:

Generous God, we bless you for your gift of life renewed through Christ's love, and through springtime growth in fields and gardens. Bless the gifts we bring and make them signs of hope and renewal in the world we serve in the name of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord. Amen.

Song for the Journey BOP 634 Will you come and follow me

Vs. 1 Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known; will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?	Vs. 2 Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
Vs. 3 Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?	Vs. 4 Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
Vs. 5 Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.	

Now, it is the time for us to be sent to the world. We love many things including our own selves. Let us learn the love of Jesus and copy his love. We may fall, maybe many times. But, don't be disappointed. That's who we are. Let us obey God and let us receive the Holy Spirit. Fill your heart with God.

Benediction: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, And the Love of God, And the intimate fellowship of the Holy Spirit, Be with us all, now and always. Amen.