

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A



THE GOSPEL [John 14:1-12](#)

*Jesus said to his disciples: “Do not let your hearts be troubled.”**

Jesus,

As your disciples,
our hearts are troubled.
Is there some escape, we ask, from
war, violence, racism, abuse of children and adults, climate change?

Be with us now, please.

To know you is to know and love
the Father and the Spirit.
And that is everything.
No fear there.

You are
our
way,
our truth,
and our life.

Wherever you abide is the place that
we always want to be—circling
in eternal, self-giving love,
with you, the Father,
and your Holy
Spirit.



*“I am the way, the truth and the life,
No one comes to the Father except through me”*

First Reading Acts 6, 1-7

"Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty."

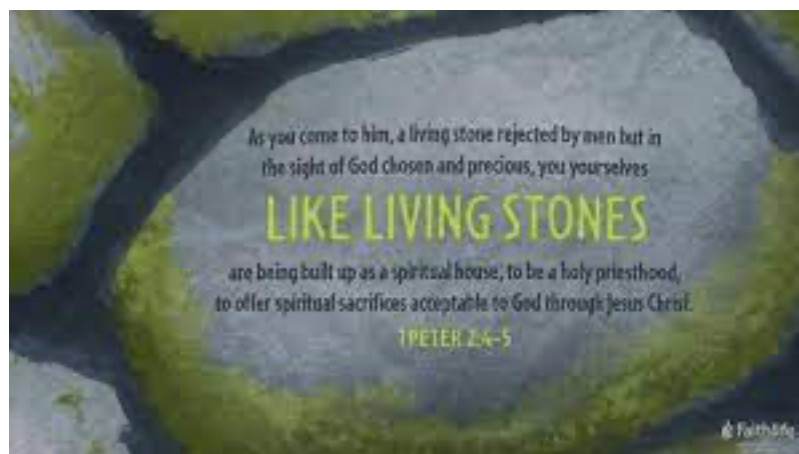
Lord, choose us as
your children who
will give care to the poor,
will wash their feet as you did,
will go out to spread the word of God.
Fill us, please, with wisdom and the Holy Spirit.

THE SECOND READING 1 Peter 2:4-9

Let yourselves be built into a spiritual house.

Dear Christ, please call us
to be a chosen race,
a royal priesthood,
a holy nation,
a people of your own.

We
want to
be with you
in the middle of the
human race and all creation,
calling your people out of
darkness into
light. (Annie Osdieck)



Reflection: (John Foley SJ)

The early followers of Jesus actually called their Jesus movement, “the Way,” instead of “Christianity.” What does “the Way” mean?

It is the way to real life. Jesus is saying that the Father has been shown forth completely, in himself, the Christ. Jesus called him “abba,” but he is the God all ages have sought for, the One who is all good and all loving and all powerful. God. Do you want to know God? Look at Jesus. Follow his way.

Philip does want to know “the Father,” but he completely misses Jesus’ play on the words, “the Way.” He replies, “Master, just show us the Father, and that will be enough for us.” We can’t understand your explanations, just give us the goods.

Jesus' response: “show you the Father? *What Are You Saying, Philip? I AM showing you the Father.* God is so present in my life (and death and resurrection) that to know me is to know the Father.”

Let the meaning in. Jesus seems to say that God is totally within him. They are one. You can see infinite love revealed!

Can you or I look at the Cross and the Resurrection and see God’s infinite love embedded there? Can we see a love that is stronger than death, stronger than honor, power, riches, stronger than a “trouble-free life”?

It is The Way to freedom.

Don't let
your
hearts
be troubled

- John. 14:1 -

*The image for the Gospel is a detail from a painting by Georges Rouault: *Christ and the Apostles 1937-38*).