



Riverside Congregational Church

May 9, 2021

6th Sunday of Easter

“Joy is the holy fire that keeps our purpose warm and our intelligence aglow.” —Helen Keller

Call to Worship

Leader: God speaks to the heart,

People: Offering compassion and hope.

Leader: God enlivens the mind,

People: Inviting curiosity and wonder.

Leader: God awakens all spirits,

People: Fostering sacred connection.

Leader: God nurtures our strength,

People: Creating unimagined possibilities.

Leader: God calls the whole world,

People: Inspiring extravagant love.

Lord, I Want to be a Christian

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart

In my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart

In my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart

Lord, I Want to be a Christian

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart

In my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart

In my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart

Psalm 98

O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have gotten him victory.
The LORD has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.

Psalm 98

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.
Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy

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.

John 15: 9-17

“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.

John 15: 9-17

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.



Reflection

“The Joy of Love”



Pastoral Prayer

Great is thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with thee
Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
As thou has been thou forever wilt be

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed thy hand hath provided
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

Great is thy Faithfulness

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed thy hand hath provided
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done in earth,
As it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
The power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.**

Communion Time

Leader: God be with you

People: And also with you

Leader: Lift up your hearts

People: We lift them up to God

Leader: Let us give thanks to God

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise

Communion Time

All: Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Lord, I lift your name on high.

Lord, I love to sing your praises.

I'm so glad you're in my life,

I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth to show the way,

From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay;

From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky.

Lord, I lift your name on high.

(x2)



Peace be with you!