

## Stay Connected; Stay Well 保持连接；保重健康

John 约翰福音 14:15-21

6<sup>th</sup> of Easter; May 17, 2020 复活节后第六个主日

### Text:

If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it. 15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. 17 This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. 18 "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. 19 In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. 20 On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21 They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

约翰福音 14:15-21 耶稣求父赐下保惠师

<sup>15</sup> “如果你们爱我，就要遵守我的命令。<sup>16</sup> 我要请求父，他就会赐给你们另一位保惠师，使他跟你们永远在一起。<sup>17</sup> 这保惠师就是真理的灵，世人不能接受他，因为看不见他，也不认识他。你们却认识他，因为他跟你们住在一起，也要在你们里面。<sup>18</sup> 我不会撇下你们为孤儿，我要回到你们这里来。<sup>19</sup> 不久以后，世人不再看见我，你们却要看见我，因为我活着，你们也要活着。<sup>20</sup> 到那日，你们就知道我是在我父里面，你们是在我里面，我也在你们里面。<sup>21</sup> 那领受我的命令，并且遵守的，就是爱我的；爱我的，我父必定爱他，我也要爱他，并且要亲自向他显现。”

### Reflection反思:

The last Sunday worship service in our sanctuary took place on March 15, 2020. We have participated in virtual services via ZOOM for over two months now. During these times of social isolation, we have celebrated Lent, culminating in Holy Week, and Easter - the climax of the liturgical year of our Christian life. Probably not one of us imagined that we would have Good Friday and Easter services, never mind communion, on-line rather than in the sanctuary. In these unprecedented times we are being transformed into a virtual faith community; each week we have had about 50 people participating. In our May Newsletter, I wrote, “We are staying apart, yet we are connected in the Spirit.” What do we mean when we say that we are connected? Because we are in one cyberspace, or that we can see each other through the computer screen? Why do we get together to join in on this on-line service? With these questions in mind, let us return to today's scripture reading.

在我们的敬拜圣所里，最后一次主日崇拜是在2020年3月15日。到目前为止在ZOOM的线上敬拜已经有两个多月了。在这段社交距离的时期，我们线上敬拜走过了四旬节，一直进入圣周和复活节 – 在基督教的日历中 复活节是我们基督徒生活的高潮。恐怕没有人会想到耶稣受难日和复活节，更不用说圣餐了能在网上进行而不是在圣所。在这个前所未有的时代，我们被转变成一个虚拟的信仰社区；每周我们都有大约50人参加网上的敬拜。在

我们5月份的教会“通讯”中，我写道，“我们尽管身体隔开，但我们在精神上是相通的。”当我们说我们是相通的时候，这是什么意思呢？因为我们在一个网络空间里，或者我们可以通过电脑屏幕看到彼此？为什么我们要聚在一起加入这个在线敬拜？带着这些问题，让我们回到今天的经文阅读。

According to the gospel writer of John, Jesus could not help but know he would soon be betrayed, arrested, and finally killed. Here at the Passover table, Jesus speaks his last words to his closest friends. This scene was recalled and written long after Jesus had died. This Gospel was written around 100-110 BCE. in and for a community for whom Jesus was but a distant memory. Jesus hadn't returned as expected but life went on. This community of believers was in despair and the writer knew the dangers of such despair. So it was that the writer of John pulled together many of the pithy sayings. Jesus was recalled to have said into this one section of the Gospel known as "The Farewell Discourse."

根据约翰福音的作者：耶稣不由自主地知道他很快就会被出卖，被逮捕，最后被杀害。在逾越节的餐桌上，耶稣对他最亲密的朋友说了最后一句话。这个场景是在耶稣死后很久才被回忆和写下的。这部福音书大约写于公元前100-110年。对于一个社区来说，耶稣只是一个遥远的记忆。耶稣并没有像预期的那样回来，但是生活还在继续。这群信徒陷入了绝望中，作者知道这种绝望的危险。因此，约翰福音的作者收集了许多精辟的言语。耶稣曾说过的这些话，在福音书中被称为“告别演讲”。

Here, some of the words recalled and attributed to Jesus are, "I will not leave you orphaned." "I am coming to you." "In a little while, the world will no longer see me, but you will see me." In this farewell scene, what does Jesus mean about 'coming back?' Jesus hadn't come back even though two generations had passed. So, what did the words mean to the writer of John? One thing for sure is that the writer did not intend that we should read them literally to suggest that Jesus would return like an old friend from a long journey. Jesus would mean them to be understood in a different way. How did Jesus and/or the writer intend them to be understood?

在这里，一些言语认为是耶稣所说的，“我不会撇下你们为孤儿。”“我要回到你们这里来。”“不久以后，世人不再看见我，你们却要看见我。”在这个告别的场景中，耶稣说‘回到你们这里来’是什么意思？”虽然当时已经经过了两代人，耶稣还没有回来。那么，这些话对约翰福音的作者意味着什么？有一件事是肯定的，作者并没有打算让我们从字面上理解耶稣会像一个老朋友一样从漫长的旅程中归来。耶稣希望用另一种方式来理解这些。那么耶稣和/或作者希望如何理解这些呢？

According to John, it is the Spirit who makes them different. The Spirit makes it happen. The Spirit is described as an "advocate," from the Greek word παρακλητος (parakletos). "παρακλητος" has a range of meanings. Sometimes it is translated as the Advocate, someone who stands beside you in a court of law; sometimes as Helper; sometimes Intercessor. The Spirit, which blew like a wind over the face of the deep in creation, dwells in the one who now sits with them at the table. The Spirit who dwells in me, Jesus and the writer, now abide in us.

根据约翰的说法，是圣灵使他们与众不同。圣灵发挥了作用。在这里圣灵被描述为一个“保惠师”来自希腊语παρακλητος(安慰者)。“παρακλητος”在希腊语中有不同的意思，有时它被翻译为“辩护人” - 在法庭上在你身边支持你的人;有时被翻译成帮助者;有时被翻译成调解者。那圣灵，像风一样，吹过受造物的渊面，住在现在与他们同坐的那一位里面。住在我里面、耶稣和作者的圣灵，现在住在我们里面。

That is what Jesus said that night at the table, that even as God breathed into lifeless clay to create a living person, so the Spirit breathes the presence of Jesus into you and me. In the presence and power of the Spirit, Jesus continues to be present with you and us. “I will not leave you orphaned. I am coming to you.”

这就是那天晚上耶稣在餐桌上所说的，就像上帝把气吹进没有生命的泥土里去创造一个有生命的人一样，圣灵也把耶稣的同在吹进你我里面。在圣灵的同在和能力里，耶稣继续与你和我们同在。“我不会撇下你们为孤儿的。我要回到你们这里来。”

Love and the Spirit, these two words are at the centre of Jesus’ farewell message. “Love one another as I have loved you,” and “The Spirit of Truth will abide with you when I am gone.” A little later in this same chapter, it is recorded that Jesus says, “The Holy Spirit, whom God will send in my name, will teach you everything and will remind you of all that I have said to you.” That is, Jesus is saying: You don’t know everything yet. You have more to learn. In every generation, you will be faced with new questions and perplexities. “The Spirit will be your tutor,” he said, “guiding you into all the truth.”

爱和圣灵，这两个词是耶稣告别演讲的中心。“你们要彼此相爱、像我爱你们一样。”我去以后、真理的灵要常与你们同在。”接着在这一章里又记载着耶稣所说的，“神要奉我的名差来的圣灵，要将一切的事指教你们，又要叫你们想起我对你们所说的一切话。”也就是说，耶稣是在说：你们还不知道一切。你还有很多东西要学。每一代人都会面临新的问题和困惑。耶稣说：“圣灵将成为你的导师，引导你进入所有的真理。”

At the very end of this chapter, Jesus seems to be ready to leave. He says, “Rise, let us be on our way.” You can almost see him getting up from the table, then, realizing that he had forgotten to say something important, saying, “I am the vine, and my Father is the vine grower. Abide in me as I abide in you.” But how can we abide in Jesus? He has told the disciples over and over, repeating himself at the table: You will abide in me through the gift of the Spirit. The Spirit will teach you how to love one another. The Spirit will keep us connected, said Jesus, You to me, all of us to God and you to one another.

在这一章的最后，耶稣似乎准备离开。他说：“起来，我们走吧。”你几乎可以看到他从桌子上站起来，然后，意识到他忘记说一些重要的事情，接着说：“我是真葡萄树，我父是培植的人。你们要住在我里面，我也就住在你们里面。”但是我们怎么才能住在耶稣里面呢？他在餐桌前，屡次对门徒说，你们必因圣灵的恩赐常在我里面。圣灵将教导你们如何彼此相爱。耶稣说，圣灵将使我们彼此相连，你与我，我们所有人与神和你们彼此。

In this unprecedented time of practising physical distancing, we are connected like the branches are connected to the vine as we remember who Jesus was and is for us and others. We are connected through recalling what he wanted to do for and with them then, and for and with us now. In this Spirit, we gather together to build our faith community for the common good. Even though we are separated by place, we are one in the Spirit. This was the firm foundation of Jesus' disciples faith long ago and is the firm foundation of our faith today. It is the gift of the Holy Spirit to all of us here and now. The Spirit ties us to Jesus and to each other. We feel the firm tug of the Spirit in each other as we remember the ministry of Jesus and envision it for our future ministry here at West Point Grey United. So be it.

在这个前所未有的保持社交距离的时候，我们被连接在一起，就像树枝被连接在藤蔓上一样，因为我们记得耶稣是谁，并且他是为我们和其他人。我们记起耶稣那时想要为门徒们做什么，并和他们一起，以及现在他想要和我们一起做什么并和我们连接在一起。在圣灵里，我们聚集在一起，为了共同的利益建立我们的信仰社区。虽然我们在不同地点居家隔离，但我们在圣灵里是一体的。这是很久以前耶稣门徒信心的坚固基础，也是我们今天信心的坚固基础。这是圣灵赐给我们所有人的礼物。圣灵将我们与耶稣和彼此连系。当我们回忆耶稣的事工并展望我们在 WPG 联合教会未来的事工时，我们感到我们彼此被圣灵坚固地牵引着。就是这样。

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