

**OPENING MUSIC “You Are Mine” ELW                                   Pam Asberry**

**MEMORIAL DAY RECOGNITION OF SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: The God who is Love, calls us to return to him, confess or wrongs, and receive the assurance of his abiding love, grace and forgiveness.

**C: Amen. Thanks be to God!**

P: Jesus, Loving Savior:

**C: How simple your commandment to love sounds, but how hard it is to live out!**

**The world teaches us a different set of priorities and values. We love those who are like us, and those we find easy to love. We don’t want to do the hard work of loving those who are different, or those who make it difficult for us to love them. Why is the Christian life so demanding? Forgive our flagging commitment to you and keeping your commandments. Fill us with your grace and compassion, so that we will have love to spare to share with our brothers and sisters and our neighbors, even when we don’t feel like loving. We pray in the name of the one, who gave us the example of what it means to love; and proved it by laying down his life for his friends and his enemies. Amen.**

P: Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit comes to teach us everything, and remind us of all that Jesus said to us. The Spirit fills us with the promise of forgiveness, equips us for service, and sends us forth to love others as God loves us. In our midst, the Holy Spirit teaches us all we need to know, gives us what we need in order to be faithful, and fills us with peace.

**C: Alleluia! Amen!**

**GREETING**

A: Those who love Jesus keep his words;

**C: Jesus gave us a commandment,**

**to love one another.**

A: Come and love the Lord, by loving

Your brothers and sisters in Christ.

**C: Worship the God, who promises**

**that we will live in his love forever. Amen!**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A: Holy One,  
**C: Into these dark times of fear**

**and isolation, pour out your radiance.  
Shower down your light and love to pierce**

**the gloom until the darkness is dispelled,   
and our hearts find peace  
and conviction that we can fulfill your commandment**

**to love one another as you have loved us.**

**In the name of one, whose very life was**

**love. Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-14**

6So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 8But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” 9When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 11They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

12Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. 13When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. 14All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Word of God, Word of Life!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**GOSPEL READING: John 15:10-17**

**10**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. **11**I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

**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[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+15%3A10-17&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-26704a)] any longer, because the servant[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+15%3A10-17&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-26704b)] 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.

The Gospel of the risen Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ!**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SERMON “What’s Love Got To Do With It?”**

**SPECIAL MUSIC   “You Raise Me Up” Lovland**

**Debby Brady,  soloist**

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**and born of the virgin May.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.\***

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Source of all loves,

**Congregation: Teach us to love one another.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER C: Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come,**

**thy will be done,**

**on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,**

**forever and ever. Amen**

**THE PEACE**

**P:** Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you: my peace I give to you. I do not give as the world gives.” The peace of our risen Lord Jesus Christ, be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**BLESSING**

P: Go now into the world.  
Search for the God who is not far from each one of us.  
Offer to all who ask an account of the hope that is in you.  
Keep your conscience clear  
as you live the commandments in love.  
  
P: And may God greet your prayers with constant love;  
May Christ Jesus give you life through his own life;  
And may the Spirit of truth abide with you and within you, always.

**C: Amen.**

**CLOSING MUSIC  Jesus Christ Is Risen Today         Wesley, arr. Pam Asberry**

