

Sunday, May 21, 2023
7 Easter Sunday, Year A

John 17:1–11

On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. ⁶I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

OPEN

- What was on task you accomplished as a child that make you feel really good, even older than your age?
- What going away gift have you received or given that still warms your heart or brings a smile?
- What is the best reason you have heard for not believing in Christianity?

DIG

- What event is it now “time” for (v. 1: 12: 23-24)?
- What does it mean to “glorify” someone (vv 4-5) ? How is Jesus’ deity emphasized here?
- Who or what is the focal point of Jesus’ prayer in verses 6-19? Why? If you had to file a report to the Father on Jesus’ activities, how would you illustrate verses 6-8?
- What is Jesus’ concern in verse 11 and 15? What does he mean by “ the name you gave me” (see 8:58)?
- What does he mean by his request in verse 17? What is it’s purpose?
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REFLECT

- This week, whom have you glorified by the way you lived? How so?
- How are your prayers of others like and unlike Jesus’ prayer? Do your prayers reflect the short-term urgent, or the long-term important needs that people have?
- If paid \$10.00 an hour for consciously working at loving others, how much money would you have made this past week? What is one way you can earn more this week?