

Sunday, May 9, 2021
6 Easter Sunday, Year B

John 15:9-17

Jesus said: ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I 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. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I 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. ¹⁶You 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. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

OPEN

- Spiritually, what plant best describes you now: Towering oak? Weeping willow? Tumbleweed? Crab-apple tree? Why?

DIG

- How do verses 9 to 12 tie together? How is love the essential dynamic of the Christian life? How do verses 12-13 take Jesus’ command to love even further the 13:34-35? How does our relationship with Jesus change once we start practicing this example of love?
- What is the link between obedience and prayer (vv 7, 16)?

REFLECT

- As a branch on Christ’s vine, how would you describe the fruit in your life: Grande A-1? Juicy? Green? Wormy? Why?
- Do you feel more like Jesus’ servant or his friend? What helps develop the friendship?