



Wednesday Prayer

6th Sunday of Easter ~ Advocate – Called alongside

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth... You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you." John 14:15-17

Jesus taught that the two greatest commandments are love of God and love of neighbor. In today's Gospel, Jesus explains that through the very active presence of the Holy Spirit, we remain deeply connected to God and to one another. The Greek word for *advocate* is *paraclete* which can also be translated as "one who is called alongside."

In this time of essential social distancing, we are compelled to find creative new ways to walk alongside those who may be most vulnerable. I hear daily from members of our local community offering to sew masks, donate meals, clothing, and other urgently needed supplies to help young people experiencing homelessness stay safe and healthy during this global health crisis.

These acts of love require a tremendous amount of mindfulness and energy. So where can we find our rest and our renewal when we are unable to gather for communal worship? Perhaps the answer can be found in what Franciscan priest Richard Rohr describes as the "force field of love." Drawing from the physics phenomena of *quantum entanglement*, he writes,

"One stays in this positive force field whenever one loves, cares, is in solidarity with, or serves with positive energy. In Trinitarian theology, the Holy Spirit is foundationally described as the field of love between the Father and the Son. When people stand in this place and rest in love as their home base, they become quite usable by God and their lives are filled with quantum entanglements..."

We must deliberately choose to be instruments of peace – first of all in our minds and hearts. This is conscious quantum entanglement. God is not "in" heaven nearly as much as God is the force field [of love] that allows us to create heaven through our intentions and actions."¹

Heavenly Creator, may we be ever mindful of your commandment to love one another. Bind us together in the force field of your love so that we may continue to tirelessly walk alongside those who may be most vulnerable in our communities. May we emerge together from this pandemic even stronger in our united efforts to raise healthy generations free from sexual exploitation in all its forms. Amen.

¹ <https://cac.org/the-field-of-love-2019-11-07/>