



35A Easter 5 Mother's Day

I am the way

SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2020 | EASTER | FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | MOTHER'S Day
YEAR A

First Reading	Acts 7:55–60
Psalm	Psalm 31:1–5, 15–16
New Testament	1 Peter 2:2–10
Gospel	John 14:1–14 ¹

John 14:1-14

Jesus reassures his disciples that they will be with him. He explains that he is the way, the truth and the life and that anyone who has seen him has seen the Father. He promises that he will do anything asked in his name.

This week's resources explore: Jesus explaining to his disciples how he will remain with them.

A prayer of approach

Together, Lord, we come to seek the 'Jesus way'.
May your truth fill us with wisdom to see your presence
in all that we do.
And may we receive new life, that we may serve you
in all that we are.

Amen.

Reading

John 14:1-14

Jesus the Way to the Father

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going."

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."

Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it."²

¹ Lectionary Reading { References: `BibleNIV:Jn 14:1–14`; Title: "Gospel" }

² [The New International Version](#). (2011). (Jn 14:1–14). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

Discussion of the reading

Gospel: John 14.1-14

We may be so used to hearing these verses read at funerals that it can be hard to remember that 'I go and prepare a place for you' has a wider meaning. Jesus is speaking to his disciples before his death. He explains that he and the Father are joined in a close relationship to one another (John 14.10-11), so close that whoever has seen Jesus has seen the Father (14.9). Therefore Jesus can assure the disciples that they will not be left abandoned and that he himself is the way which they need to travel – he is both the means and the route. A fuller life awaits them: 'I am the way, and the truth and the life,' he declares. He is life itself, even in the face of his own approaching death. He is truth – the most complete and accurate truth, truth that he promised would, by its very nature, set them free. And he is the way – the way for them to be fully united with God, and the way that they need to journey, in order to serve God. No wonder he can promise, 'I will come again and take you to myself.' This is a promise of unity with him within this life, not just after death. Jesus is commissioning his disciples for service. He speaks to them about praying and believing and doing even greater works than he has done. He describes his return to the Father not as a separation from the disciples but the way in which their relationship with God will be even clearer and stronger, when they are drawn up into the love between the Father and the Son.

A sending out prayer

May God bless you, guide you and direct you.

May God bless you, give you strength and the assurance of his love.

May God bless you and fill your life with his presence –
today and always.

Amen.

Live your faith

When you see a signpost, remember that, for you, Jesus is the way, the truth and the life – try to think of a practical consequence of that in/for whatever you are about to do.