

***Nurturing Faith...  
Every Day in Every Way***

May 1, 2016

Sixth Sunday of Easter

***Acts 16:9-15***

***Psalm 67***

***Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5***

***John 14:23-29***



**Holy Spirit**

***Peace of Mind and Heart.***

Have you ever been afraid? Of course you have. We are all afraid at times. It is nothing to be ashamed of, even adults are sometimes afraid. Some of us may be afraid of the dark. Some may be afraid of the thunder and lightning that comes with a storm. Here are just a few of the things that people are afraid of: bugs, bees, snakes, heights, dentists, doctors, dogs, cats, mice, and germs.

When Jesus told his disciples that he was going to return to his Father, they were afraid. What would happen to them? Would the enemies recognize them as his followers and try to harm them?

Jesus knew that his disciples were afraid and he offered these words to comfort them. "I am leaving you with a gift — peace of mind and heart. Don't be troubled or afraid. Remember what I have told you: 'I am going away, but I will come back to you again. I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me.'"

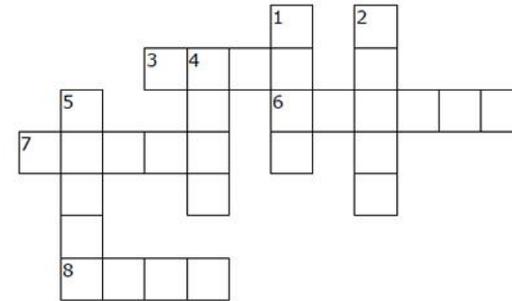
These words were a great comfort to his disciples and they are a great comfort to us today. When Jesus returned to his Father heaven, he asked the Father to send the Holy Spirit to comfort his disciples until the day when he returned. That includes you and me! What a wonderful gift Jesus has given us -- peace of mind and heart. We no longer have anything to fear. Whenever we find ourselves in the dark or in the storms of life, Jesus is with us.

Father, we thank you for the Holy Spirit who guides us and calms our fears. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

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**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia. Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Alleluia (John 14:23)

***Crossword Puzzle***



**ACROSS**

- 3. To have a deep feeling of affection toward a person
- 6. Have a feeling of fear
- 7. A time when people live and work together happily without violence
- 8. A place where someone lives; a residence.

**DOWN**

- 1. To receive a sound using your ears
- 2. Parts of a language which can be spoken or written
- 4. To carry out or fulfill a command, order, or instructions
- 5. To give instruction to others

|       |      |       |        |
|-------|------|-------|--------|
| TEACH | LOVE | WORDS | AFRAID |
| OBEY  | HOME | HEAR  | PEACE  |

**FINGERPRINT BUGS:** Give the child a piece of paper and an ink pad to make finger prints on a piece of paper. Then have the child use pens to draw legs on their bug prints. Write NO FEAR WHEN JESUS IS NEAR on their paper.

**PEACE OF MIND AND HEART FLOWER POT:** Provide a small flower pot for the child to paint or to decorate with stickers. Add dirt and a small flower for the child to plant. Then stick a plastic fork into the dirt with the handle first. On a card, write "PEACE OF HEART AND MIND WITH JESUS" or "NO FEAR WHEN JESUS IS NEAR" and stick the card into the prongs of the fork.



# GOD IS WITH ME WHEN I AM AFRAID

