

May 25, 2025

Daily Reflections

Journeying through Easter



Center for Spiritual Development

THE PROMISE

By Julie Mussché

Today's Gospel

Jesus said to his disciples:

*“Whoever loves me will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him.
Whoever does not love me does not keep my words;
yet the word you hear is not mine
but that of the Father who sent me.*

*“I have told you this while I am with you.
The Advocate, the Holy Spirit,
whom the Father will send in my name,
will teach you everything
and remind you of all that I told you.
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
Not as the world gives do I give it to you.*

*Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.
You heard me tell you,
'I am going away and I will come back to you.'
If you loved me,
you would rejoice that I am going to the Father;
for the Father is greater than I.
And now I have told you this before it happens,
so that when it happens you may believe."*

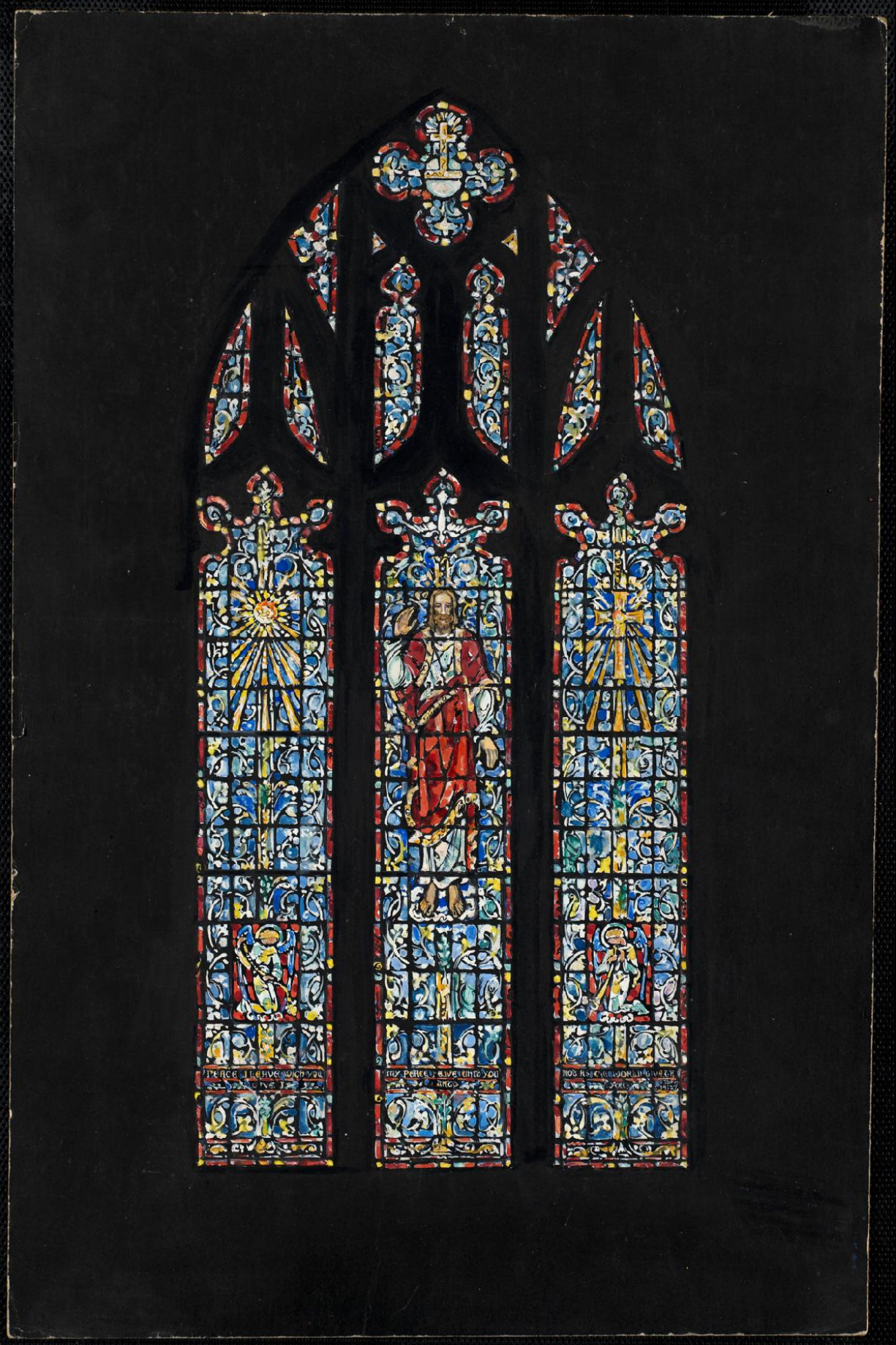
JOHN 14:23-29

Reflection

When I was a teenager, this passage from John really grabbed my attention. Growing up in a somewhat chaotic and dysfunctional household, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you..." spoke to my heart. It was as if Jesus was talking personally to me. "Do not let your heart be troubled or afraid..." simply punctuated the message of comfort.

Unravelling this Gospel portion, the idea of the Trinity is solidified. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit, all named. "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name..." consubstantial and particular, complex mystery and yet simple and defined in this reading.

Now, the opening of this reading reveals the conditions of the promise of God's ongoing presence, "Whoever loves me will keep my word." This is the stipulation, and in reflecting on this, the thing that struck me was the relational context. This then took me back to last week's reading, "I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." (*John 13:34*) Makes sense to me, how about you?



"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you, not as the world giveth you." by Boston Public Library is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0. To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.0/?ref=openverse>.

- How does this passage grab you? Spend a moment walking through the Word and see what comes to your attention.
 - What are the gifts of the Holy Spirit in your life and how do they show up?
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For Prayer

Alleluia, alleluia.

*Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord,
and my Father will love him and we will come to him.*

Alleluia, alleluia.

JOHN 14:23

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