Hi,

Here’s today’s updates:

* The Weekly Bible Study for this weekend is attached. Pentecost is here!!
* **My Sunday class is moving to 11am,** to return to our usual church schedule. We will continue to meet on [my personal Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/scottengle).
* My Monday class on Matthew will meet at 3pm and my Tuesday class will meet at noon -- both on my Facebook page.
* The links to my on-line classes, the video recordings of the classes, the class audio podcasts, and the archive of these daily emails can all be found at [www.scottengle.org](http://scottengle.org/scotts-weekly-classes/). All the postings are up-to-date.

It is Friday, which is turning into the day I share Lauren Sandstedt’s reflections in this Time of Virus. As you know, Lauren is one of our summer interns from Perkins Seminary and was asked to write these weekly for the Parish Episcopal School community.

**“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” John 15:12-13**

God of Love, You are mine. And I am yours. What a wild love you have for your creation. In all honesty, some days it is hard for me to comprehend your vastness. Just as the early Christians defined *charity* as ‘the love of God and love of neighbor’, today I choose to continue to define you by your love. If I walk through the day, distracted and occupied by the current demands of the people and needs around me (as I am prone to) . . . settle me down. Bring me back to this verse. How relieving that the world isn’t, nor was it ever meant to be, about me. *You* sustain me. It is *your* love I desire to demonstrate. Behold, today is different. Today is a *new* day.

Lord in your mercy, hear my prayer.

Gracious God, How fascinating it is to me that the real power of King Jesus actually resides within the *humility* of what is described in verses 12-13. I can only imagine that this was as radical to those followers walking in person with your son Jesus, as it is to me today in 2020. What I would give for such vulnerability in faith! Let me act in a *humble love*, trusting that your power yields greater fruits in this, than any extravagant strength I try to muster alone. Create in me a humble spirit, my God.

Lord in your mercy, hear my prayer.

Holy Lord, I pray you bless me with the opportunity to embody this command, in whatever ways that sacrifice may look like. While my human nature is prone to fear offering such incredible sacrifices, help me to be bold in my prayers. *Wherever you call me. . . I will go*. In the everyday moments, empower me to sacrifice boldly, privately, quietly, lovingly, selflessly, humbly. Remind me that though this life is but a flash, I see glimpses of your everlasting glory bursting in acts of love (both big and small) that surround me each day. Today will be different, because today is new. Yet, as ever before: you are mine, and I am yours.

Amen.

‘til Monday, grace and peace,

Scott