



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

## A Devotion During This Time of the Coronavirus Pandemic Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 9, 2021

### Love and Faith for our Mothers

by Mr. Daniel H. Wilcox

#### 1 John 5:1-6

5:1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child.

5:2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.

5:3 For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome,

5:4 for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith.

5:5 Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

5:6 This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

In the final moments of the tragic, needless death of George P. Floyd, he called out for his beloved, deceased mother as he also plead with police. His mother seemed to be his confidant and closest supporter whom George seemed ready to meet again. This familial bond between mother and child lasts eternally, forging a relationship of affection and trust.

In 1 John, the writer asserts that everyone who loves the parent will love the child. This portends that love of God engenders love of Jesus Christ. Likewise, the connection between God, the Creator and Jesus Christ, the Son compares to the bond between mother and child. Love and faith links them throughout life and eternity, endearing mother and child to each other through the sharing of mutual space. When separated by life's travails, a mother's love sustains her child and her faith engenders their hope of fidelity. A child believes that mother will remain although others abandon. Thus, this bond between mother and child endures through triumphs and tragedies as the link between God and Jesus endured through Calvary and resurrection.

On this Mother's Day, let us remember and celebrate our mothers and children as well as those who have adopted mothers and children. Honor God always through our witness of faith and love in and to our mothers.

**TALK:** Take a moment to be silent, reflect, and share (write down)—Reflecting on the scripture, share a time/instance when you have trusted your mother or someone with a motherly presence as a guiding influence? How did this experience make you feel or direct you?

**PRAY:**

Lord God, we praise you for our mothers. She always loves, encourages, and provides for her children and those around her. She serves as a wonderful example of what it means to nurture and live out love for those around her. Guide our mothers with wisdom and grace as she carries out your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Ghost, now and forever. Amen.

*Adaption from The Book of Common Prayer*

**ACT:** During the Easter season, contact your mother or someone with a motherly presence and express your gratitude to them. Journal your experience and reflect on your journey through Eastertide and toward Pentecost. In this Eastertide Season, do what you can to protect the health of others and yourself by practicing social distancing as much as possible, washing your hands often, wearing face covering to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, and prayerfully considering getting the vaccine when it is available—See: <http://www.amechealth.org>.

2. See also the activity that accompanies this devotion.

**Song:**

Faith of Our Mothers  
AMEC Hymnal, #430

1. Faith of our mothers, living still  
In cradle song and bedtime prayer;  
In nursery lore and fireside love,  
Thy presence still pervades the air.  
Faith of our mothers, living faith!  
We will be true to thee till death.
2. Faith of our mothers, loving faith,  
Fount of our childhood's trust and grace,  
Oh, may thy consecration prove  
Source of a finer, nobler race.  
Faith of our mothers, loving faith,  
We will be true to thee till death.
3. Faith of our mothers, guiding faith,  
For youthful longing, youthful doubt,  
How blurred our vision, blind our way,  
Thy providential care without.

Faith of our mothers, guiding faith,  
We will be true to thee till death.

4. Faith of our mothers, Christian faith,  
Is truth beyond our stumbling creeds,  
Still serve the home and save the Church,  
And breathe thy spirit through our deeds;  
Faith of our mothers, Christian faith,  
We will be true to thee till death.

Physical space—You may wish to create a dedicated space for your time of devotion. You may choose to place a candle, bible, and special symbols or material/fabric to help you focus and center during this time of reflection and prayer.

If you use this meditation and exercise in a time of family or group devotion, share in the leadership; allow different persons to read or lead different parts of this meditation.



Mother of George Floyd, Larcenia Floyd

*The Christian Education Department will continue to develop resources that can be used as times of personal and collective devotion and study during this pandemic to help us all sustain and strengthen our faith and resolve.*