

Sermon 講道信息
 October 十月 8, 2023
 John 約翰福音 14:15-31
 “Never Alone”
 永不孤單

Our dog, Mikey, is very perceptive.

我們的狗，米奇，它的洞察力非常強。

Each morning, when I get ready to leave, he senses what’s happening.

每天早上，我什麼時候準備離家去上班，它都知道。

If I am just moving around the house, loading the dishwasher, getting breakfast, or giving our children a hug, Mikey happily lays on the couch, not a care in the world.

如果我只是在家裡做事情，把髒的碗放進洗碗機，弄早餐，或者給我們的孩子一個擁抱，米奇會快樂地躺在沙發上，不會理會我。

But as soon as I pick up my keys, grab my bag, and put on my coat, he knows.

但只要我拿起鑰匙，拿起我的包，穿上外套，他就知道了。

Instantly, he leaps off the couch, runs up to me, barks, and then bites onto my pant leg refusing to let go.

瞬間，他從沙發上跳下來，跑到我身邊，吠叫，然後咬住我的褲腿不放。

I end up walking slowly to the door and outside to the gate, dragging a small pug firmly attached to my pants, his paws stubbornly thrust into the ground, resisting my departure with every ounce of his strength.

我最終只能慢慢地走到門口，走到門外，拖著一隻牢牢地咬住我的褲子的小哈巴狗。他的爪子頑強地插在地上，用盡全力抵抗我的離開。

Mikey doesn’t want me to leave.

米奇不想讓我離開。

In John 13:33, Jesus tells his disciples that he will be with them only a little longer.

在約翰福音 13 : 33 中，耶穌告訴祂的門徒，祂只會再和他們在一起一陣子。

He will depart.

祂將離開。

He will go to his Father.

祂會去祂的父那裡去。

How do his disciples feel?

祂的門徒們的感受又如何呢？

Remember, these chapters (John 13-17) are Jesus’ personal message to them and to us.

還記得，這些章節（約翰福音 13-17）是耶穌給他們和我們的個人信息。

Jesus is sharing his heart, he’s preparing us for what will happen, he’s calling us to trust him, to see the bigger picture of his salvation – but he’s telling them he will leave them.

耶穌在分享祂的心，祂在為將要發生的事情準備我們，祂在呼召我們信靠祂，看到祂救恩的更大計劃 — 但祂告訴他們祂將要離開他們。

They won't see him.

他們將不會看到祂了。

This news is difficult, probably heartbreaking.

這個消息很難，是會令人心碎的。

These disciples have been with Jesus for three years.

這些門徒已經與耶穌在一起三年了。

They've witnessed him heal the sick, bind up the broken-hearted, release the oppressed, and declare the good news.

他們見證了祂醫治病人，包紮心靈傷心的人，釋放受壓迫的人，並宣揚福音。

And now? He's leaving them.

現在呢？祂要離開他們了。

"Do not let your hearts be troubled," Jesus tells them in John 14:1.

耶穌在約翰福音 **14:1** 中告訴他們「你們心裡不要憂愁」。

"My peace I give you ... do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid," Jesus says in John 14:27.

耶穌在約翰福音 **14:27** 中說：「我留下平安給你們，…你們心裏不要憂愁，也不要膽怯。」

And at the end of his conversation with his disciples – and just before he prays his glorious prayer in John 17 – Jesus says to them,

在祂與門徒的談話結束時 — 就是在祂在約翰福音 **17** 章中作祂榮耀的禱告之前 — 耶穌對他們說：

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace..." Jesus knows his disciples "are filled with grief" (John 16:6).

「我把真情告訴你們，我去對你們是有益的。」耶穌知道祂的門徒們「是滿心憂愁。」

(約翰福音 16:6)

Like Mikey holding onto my pant leg not wanting me to leave, so the disciples face the fact that Jesus will leave them.

就像米奇咬住我的褲子不想讓我離開一樣，所以門徒們要面對耶穌會離開他們的事實。

But he will not leave them alone.

但祂不會不顧他們的。

"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."

「我不會撇下你們為孤兒，我必到你們這裏來。」

And the glorious truth is – he will come because he will send "another advocate" – the Holy Spirit. 榮耀的真理是 — 祂會來，因為祂會差遣「另外一位保惠師」—聖靈。

This morning let's rejoice because Jesus has given us "another advocate" – the Holy Spirit.

今天早上，讓我們歡喜快樂，因為耶穌給了我們「另外一位保惠師」—聖靈。

So, let's learn who the Holy Spirit is in John 14.

所以，讓我們在約翰福音 14 章中學習聖靈是誰。

The Spirit is part of the Trinity.

聖靈是三位一體的其中一位。

The word “Trinity” is not found in the Bible, but this should not alarm us.

聖經中沒有「三位一體」這個詞，但這不應該讓我們感到震驚。

The word “Trinity” is the way the church in the second century and after referred to how God reveals himself in Scripture;

「三位一體」這個詞是教會在第二世紀和之後提到神如何在聖經中啟示自己的方式；

in other words, as church leaders read Scripture they had to find a word to express what they saw in Scripture:

換句話說，當教會領袖閱讀聖經時，他們必須找到一個詞來表達他們在聖經中看到的：
God is one, eternally existing in three persons, each distinct yet all equally God:

有一位神，永遠存在於三個位格中，每個位格都不同，但都是平等的神：

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

聖父、聖子和聖靈。

We see this earlier in John’s Gospel.

我們在約翰福音的前部份看到了這一點。

John 3:34-35 opens our eyes to the Trinity’s involvement in Jesus’ mission of salvation:

約翰福音 3：34–35 打開了我們的眼睛，看到三位一體參與耶穌的救贖使命：

“For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God for God gives the Spirit without limit. The Father loves the Son and has placed everything in his hands.”

「神所差來的說 神的話，因為 神所賜給祂的聖靈是沒有限量的。父愛子，已把萬有交在祂手裏。」

The Father loves the Son and sends the Son.

父愛子，差遣子。

The Son is loved and sent.

聖子是被愛和被差遣的。

The Father gives the Spirit to the Son without limit.

父將聖靈無限地賜給聖子。

The Son receives the Spirit and speaks the words of the Father.

聖子接受聖靈，說出聖父的話。

It is impossible to understand Christianity without acknowledging and receiving and experiencing the Trinity – this is who God is.

如果不承認、接受和經歷三位一體的神，就不可能理解基督教 — 這就是神。

Now look at our passage.

現在看看我們今天的段落。

All three persons of the Trinity are involved – they are distinct but woven together.

三位一體的所有三個位格都參與其中 — 祂們是不同的，但交織在一起。

Jesus asks the Father to give the Spirit to his disciples – John 14:16.

耶穌請求天父將聖靈賜給他的門徒 — 約翰福音 14 : 16。

The Spirit lives in us and with us, as Jesus is in the Father; we are in Jesus (by the Spirit), and Jesus is in us (by the Spirit) – John 14:17,20.

聖靈住在我們裡面，與我們同在，就像耶穌住在父裡面一樣；我們在耶穌裡面（藉著聖靈），耶穌也在我們裡面（藉著聖靈） — 約翰福音 14 : 17,20。

The Father and Son make their home in us (by the Spirit) – John 14:23.

聖父和聖子（藉著聖靈）在我們裡面居住 — 約翰福音 14 : 23。

I understand that this is not easy to understand; but the Trinity is not so much to be understood as to be acknowledged, received, and experienced.

我知道這並不容易理解；但三位一體與其說是被理解，不如說是被承認、接受和體驗的。

See, what Jesus is doing in this personal message to his disciples is opening our eyes and blowing our minds!

看，耶穌在給門徒的這個人信息中所做的就是打開我們的眼睛，讓我們大吃一驚！

He's saying, "You're not alone because God is way bigger than anyone can understand, more glorious than even eternity can contain, and much closer than you can possibly imagine."

祂是說，「你並不孤單，因為神比任何人都能理解的大得多，比永恆所能容納的更榮耀，比你想像的要更靠近。」

In other words, the Trinity is like having the full weight of God's presence, glory, love, and intimacy dumped on you like a great big wave

換句話說，三位一體就像神的同在、榮耀、愛和親密的全部重量像一個巨大的波浪一樣傾倒在你身上

– you're drenched with who God is and you go throughout your day soaked to the skin with the wonder of God as Trinity.

— 你被神的存在打濕，一整天都浸泡在神三位一體的奇跡中。

Jesus says, "You are not alone."

耶穌說：「你並不孤單。」

But let's take this a step further.

但是，讓我們再往前走一步。

In John 14:16-17, Jesus says, "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to be with you for ever – the Spirit of truth."

在約翰福音 14 : 16–17 中，耶穌說：「我要求父，父就賜給你們另外一位保惠師，使他永遠與你們同在。祂就是真理的靈。」

Notice the connection between the Spirit and Jesus.

注意聖靈和耶穌之間的聯繫。

Jesus calls the Spirit "another advocate".

耶穌稱聖靈為「另一位保惠師」。

We'll explore what "advocate" means in a minute.

我們將在稍後探討「保惠師」的含義。

But the word "another" is important.

但「另一位」這個詞很重要。

Let's say I have a box of chocolates.

假設我有一盒巧克力。

And this box has a variety of chocolates: fudge, orange cream, walnut, toffee, coffee, and so on.

這個盒子里有各種各樣的巧克力：軟糖、柳丁奶油、核桃、太妃糖、咖啡等等。

I offer you a chocolate.

我給你一塊巧克力。

And then I offer you another.

然後我再給你另一塊。

You select a different flavour.

你選擇了一個不同的口味。

In this case "another" means "different".

在這種情況下，「另一塊」意味著「不同的」。

This is not what Jesus means by "another" here.

這不是耶穌在這裡所說的「另一位」的意思。

The word in John 14 is very clear: "another" means "of the same kind".

約翰福音 14 章中的這個詞非常清楚：「另一位」的意思是「同類」的。

Jesus is departing, but we're not without Jesus.

耶穌要離開了，但我們並非沒有耶穌了。

The Spirit is Christ's presence among us and in us.

基督藉著聖靈住在我們中間和裡面。

He does not leave us as orphans – alone in a raging, antagonistic world.

祂不會撇下你們為孤兒 — 獨自一人生活在一個肆虐、敵對的世界里。

No! "I will come to you" he says in John 14:18.

不！祂在約翰福音 14 : 18 中說：「我必到你們這裏來」。

And he comes by the Spirit.

祂透過聖靈而來。

Please understand, the Spirit is not "second best".

請理解，聖靈不是「次等的」。

It's not as if we've drawn the short straw and we only get the Spirit, while the disciples had Jesus in person for three years.

這並不是說我們抽了一根短的籤，我們只得到了聖靈，而門徒卻與耶穌在一起三年。

It's not as though our experience of Jesus is "less than" the first disciples'.

這並不是說我們對耶穌的經歷「次於」第一批門徒的經歷。

The Spirit is the Spirit of Jesus.

聖靈是耶穌的靈。

Did you notice how Jesus describes the Spirit?

你注意到耶穌是如何描述聖靈的嗎？

He is the Spirit of truth.

祂是真理的靈。

And remember Jesus has just said in John 14:6 that he is the truth.

要記得，耶穌剛剛在約翰福音 14：6 中說過，祂就是真理。

There is nothing “second best” about our experience of God’s love, God’s presence, God’s salvation in Christ.

我們於神的愛、神的同在、神在基督里的救恩裡的經歷沒有什麼是「次等」的。

You and I meet Christ today just as intimately, powerfully, and gloriously as those first disciples.

你和我今天遇見基督，就像那些第一批門徒一樣是親密的、滿有能力的和榮耀的。

And the wonder of this is because Jesus has gone, his presence is not confined to a single location or time

這其中的奇妙之處在於，因為耶穌已經走了，祂的同在並不局限於一個地點或時間

– the Spirit makes Christ known to all those who believe at all points in history and time.

— 聖靈使所有在歷史和不同時間點相信的人都認識基督。

Truly, we can say, “Jesus is here!” We are never alone.

的確，我們可以說：「耶穌在這裡！」我們從不孤單。

But now, let’s take this another step further.

但是現在，讓我們再向前進一步。

What does Jesus mean by calling the Holy Spirit “another *advocate*”?

耶穌稱聖靈為「另一位保惠師」是什麼意思？

This is a complex word.

這是一個複雜的詞。

If you read the King James Version, the word is translated “Comforter”.

如果你讀欽定版聖經，這個詞被翻譯為「安慰者」。

Some use the word “Counsellor”.

有些人用「勸告者」一詞。

Other translations prefer “helper”.

其他翻譯會選擇「幫助者」。

The Spirit does comfort us – he brings us God’s grace in our distress (and let’s not forget that the disciples in his passage are grieving the news that Jesus will depart).

聖靈確實安慰我們 — 祂在我們的患難中帶給我們神的恩典（我們不要忘記，在經文中的門徒正在為耶穌將要離開的消息而悲傷）。

The Spirit does counsel us – he gives us wisdom and guidance.

聖靈確實勸告我們 — 祂給我們智慧和指導。

And the Spirit does help us – he equips us with his gifts to serve one another and he produces his fruit in us.

聖靈確實幫助我們 — 祂用祂的恩賜裝備我們彼此服侍，並在我們裡面結出祂的果子。

But in the original language of the New Testament – ancient Greek – the word means so much more.

但在新約的原文 — 古希臘語 — 中，這個詞的含義遠不止於此。

The Greek word is “paracletos”.

這個詞的希臘語是「**paracletos**」。

Literally, it means “one who comes alongside”.

從字面上看，它的意思是「同行者」。

But not in the sense of a counsellor who is a therapist giving advice or a comforter consoling us when we need cheering up.

但不是輔導員或治療師的意思，不是在我們需要振作起來時給予我們建議或安慰的人。

“Paracletos” is better translated “advocate”.

“Paracletos”最好翻譯為「維護者」。

It’s why the New International Version moved from “Counsellor” in earlier editions to “Advocate” in 2011 edition.

這就是為什麼新國際版從早期版本的「勸告者」改成了 2011 版的「維護者」。

And in the only other passage in the New Testament, outside John 14-16, where this word is used – 1 John 2:1 – “advocate” is the word used.

在新約中，除約翰福音 14-16 之外，唯一使用了這個詞的另一段經文 — 約翰一書 2: 1 — 用的詞是「維護者」。

But what does “advocate” mean?

但「維護者」是什麼意思？

“Advocate” is a legal term.

「維護者」是一個法律術語。

Today, if you are in court, you have lawyers acting on your behalf.

今天，如果你在法庭上，你有律師代表你。

But if you were on trial in the ancient world, you didn’t have lawyers acting on your behalf.

但是，如果你在古代世界受審，你沒有律師代表你。

If someone accused you of a crime, you are your own advocate to defend yourself.

如果有人指控你犯罪，你就是你自己的辯護人。

You bring in witnesses to support your case – other advocates.

你請證人來支援你的案件 — 其他維護者。

Your aim is to convince the judge you are telling the truth, you are right, you are innocent.

你的目的是說服法官你說的是實話，你是對的，你是無辜的。

But you have an accuser who is attempting to prove you wrong (“accuser” should sound familiar – Satan literally means “accuser”).

但是你有一個控告者試圖證明你是錯的（「控告者」聽起來應該很熟悉 — 撒旦的字面意思是「控告者」）。

So, there's an accuser and you are your advocate.

所以，有一個控告者，而你是你自己的維護者。

John writes his Gospel using this metaphor of an ancient courtroom.

約翰用這個古代法庭的比喻來寫他的福音書。

Jesus brings God's truth to the world.

耶穌把神的真理帶給世人。

Jesus advocates for God's truth.

耶穌維護神的真理。

But the world does not receive him.

但世界不接受祂。

In fact, Jesus is accused of blasphemous claims.

事實上，耶穌是受了褻瀆神的指控。

So, John 5:18 says, the Jewish leaders accused Jesus because he was claiming to be equal with God.

所以，約翰福音 5: 18 說，猶太領袖指責耶穌，因為祂聲稱與神同等。

The rest of chapter 5 is Jesus making his defense.

第 5 章的其餘部分是耶穌為祂辯護。

He refers to his "testimony" and the Father's testimony about him.

祂提到祂的「見證」，天父也為祂作了見證。

This is deliberate legal language.

這是深思熟慮的法律語言。

It runs throughout John's Gospel: witness, testimony, belief, convince, convict, and "Advocate".

這貫穿了約翰福音：作證、見證、信念、說服、定罪和「辯護」。

Here's where it becomes most interesting.

這是事情變得最有趣的地方。

In an ancient court, if while you are defending yourself – making your case – you leave, the accuser may win the case against you.

在古代法庭上，如果你在為自己辯護 — 陳述你的案子 — 然後你就要離開，其後控告者可能會贏得對你的訴訟。

Who will advocate for you?

誰會為你辯護？

Do you see what's happening in John 14?

你看到約翰福音 14 章發生了什麼嗎？

Jesus is going to leave.

耶穌要離開了。

He will die on the cross for our sins, be raised to life, and go where the world cannot come (John 8:21) and where his disciples cannot come (John 13:33).

祂將為我們的罪死在十字架上，從死裡復活，去世人不能去的地方（約翰福音 8：21），祂的門徒不能去的地方（約翰福音 13：33）。

It's as if he's leaving the courtroom.

就好像祂要離開法庭一樣。

So, who is left to defend the truth of Jesus?

那麼，誰來捍衛耶穌的真理呢？

The disciples?

門徒們嗎？

Well, at this point they are but children.

好吧，在這一點上，他們仍是孩子。

Jesus calls them “my children” in John 13:33.

耶穌在約翰福音 13：33 稱他們為「孩子們」。

And once he leaves what are they?

一旦祂離開，他們是什麼？

They are “orphans”.

他們便成為「孤兒」了。

And in the ancient world, children, orphans – and women – could not give evidence in court.

在古代世界，兒童、孤兒和婦女不能在法庭上作證。

They need another advocate – one who can represent Jesus perfectly and fully.

他們需要另一位中保（維護者）——一位能夠完美、完全地代表耶穌的中保。

Now do you see what's happening here?

現在你看到這裡發生了什麼嗎？

Jesus says in John 14:18 that he will not leave his disciples as orphans – he will come to them...by the Spirit, another Advocate.

耶穌在約翰福音 14：18 中說，祂不會讓祂的門徒成為孤兒 —— 祂會來到他們身邊.....由聖靈，另一位維護者（保惠師）。

This is made clear in John 15:26-27: “When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father – the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father – he will testify about me. And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.”

約翰福音 15：26-27 清楚地表明這一點：「但我要從父那裏差保惠師來，就是從父出來的那真理的靈，祂來的時候要為我作見證。你們也要作見證，因為你們從起初就與我同在。」

Jesus dies on the cross and is raised to life to give us eternal life.

耶穌死在十字架上，復活是為了給我們永生。

But then Jesus leaves.

但隨後耶穌離開了。

But he does not leave us alone – to carry on his witness as orphaned children without “legal” voice.

但祂並沒有撇下我們 —— 祂繼續為孤兒作證，因為他們沒有「合法」的聲音。

The Spirit of God – the Third Person of the Trinity, the very Spirit of Christ – is sent.
 神的靈 — 三位一體的第三位格，基督的靈 — 被差遣了。

In this sense he is the paraclete – the Advocate who “comes along side”.

從這個意義上說，祂是同行者——「並肩而行」的維護者。

He fills our life, makes Christ and the Father known in us and through us, so that we can go “as the Father sent me,” as Jesus says in John 20:21.

祂充滿我們的生命，使我們自己並通過我們能認識基督和父，這樣他就可以「父怎樣差遣了我，我也照樣差遣你們。」，正如耶穌在約翰福音 20: 21 中所說的那樣。

Now can we see what Jesus is saying in this personal message?

現在我們能明白耶穌在這個人信息中說了什麼嗎？

The Spirit is not “second best” – the Spirit dwells within us to empower us to continue the ministry of Jesus.

聖靈不是「次等的」——聖靈住在我們裡面，使我們有能力繼續耶穌的事工。

The Spirit enables us to love as Jesus’ commands.

聖靈使我們能夠如耶穌所命令的去愛。

The Spirit teaches us, reminding us of everything Jesus has said so we are confident of the truth of the Gospel and confident of our witness for Jesus in the world.

聖靈教導我們，提醒我們耶穌所說的一切，所以我們對福音的真理有信心，對我們在世界上為耶穌作見證有信心。

And the Spirit brings Christ’s peace to us, not just to console us because Jesus has departed, but so that we have strength to remain strong and not be afraid.

聖靈將基督的平安帶給我們，不僅僅是為了安慰我們，因為耶穌已經離開了，而是讓我們有力量保持剛強，不喪膽。

Isn’t it encouraging that Jesus understands when we feel alone?

當我們感到孤獨時，耶穌理解我們，這難道不令人鼓舞嗎？

He helps us see the bigger picture – we have a part to play in his ministry of salvation to this world.

祂讓我們看到更大的計劃 —— 我們在祂拯救這個世界的事工中有份。

He fills us with the Holy Spirit – the third person of the Trinity – God.

祂以聖靈充滿我們 —— 三位一體的第三位格 —— 就是神。

And he calls us to live for him – he calls us to be his witnesses to the truth of the Gospel in this rebellious world, in the power of the Spirit.

祂呼召我們為祂而活 —— 祂呼召我們在這個悖逆的世界里，靠著聖靈的能力，為福音的真理作見證。

And this brings us to John 15, where Jesus tells us to remain in him because he lays down his life for his friends.

這把我們帶到了約翰福音 15 章，耶穌告訴我們要留在祂裡面，因為祂為祂的朋友捨命。

We'll call him "G".

我們稱他為「G」好了。

G lived in the Eastern United States.

G 住在美國東部。

G was a teenager.

G 是個十幾歲的孩子。

His home a broken home.

他的家是一個破碎的家。

He was angry. He was lonely.

他很生氣。他很寂寞。

And G was a gamer – an obsessed gamer.

而 G 是一個遊戲玩家——一個上了癮的遊戲玩家。

He spent hours day and night playing computer games.

他日以繼夜地玩電腦遊戲。

It was his way of escaping the disaster that was his family life.

這是他逃避他家庭生活的災難的方式。

It so happened that one-day as he played computer games, G met someone online from the other side of the continent, in western Canada, playing the same game.

碰巧的是，有一天，當他玩電腦遊戲時，G 在網上遇到了一個來自大陸另一邊的人，在加拿大西部，玩著同一個的遊戲的人。

That other person was called Dakota.

這另一個人叫達科塔。

Dakota began to share his faith in God with G.

達科塔開始與 G 分享他對神的信仰。

G mocked him – he had no time for God.

G 嘲笑了他 — 他沒有時間去信神。

But Dakota persisted.

但達科塔堅持不懈。

G asked Dakota what his father did.

G 問達科塔他父親做什麼的。

Dakota told him that his father was a pastor of a church in Vancouver.

達科塔告訴他，他的父親是溫哥華一家教堂的牧師。

G just mocked him more.

G 更加頻繁地嘲笑了他。

Then one day, G asked Dakota what his father looked like.

然後有一天，G 問達科塔他父親長什麼樣子。

Dakota told him to go online and watch a service.

達科塔告訴他上網觀看崇拜。

G did. And he watched another service. And another. And another after that.

G 看了。他看了另一場崇拜。還有另一個。之後又是一次。

Several months passed.

幾個月過去了。

Dakota had not heard from G.

達科塔沒有收到 G 的消息。

Then, one day he did.

然後，有一天他收到消息了。

G said his life had been turned round.

G 說他的生活已經發生了翻天覆地的變化。

He had watched the services, his anger and his loneliness gradually disappearing.

他看崇拜，他的憤怒和孤獨在逐漸消失。

And he had put his faith in Jesus Christ.

他開始相信耶穌基督。

G had put his faith in Jesus because a teenager named Dakota, prompted by the Holy Spirit, shared his faith across a continent playing computer games with a teenager who was angry and lonely.

G 之所以相信耶穌，是因為一個名叫達科塔的少年在聖靈的推動下，與一個憤怒和孤獨的少年跨越大陸分享了他的信仰。

Today, that angry, lonely young man is changed.

今天，那個憤怒、孤獨的年輕人改變了。

He joins millions world-wide who love Jesus, have a part to play in Jesus' ministry of salvation; he is filled with the very presence of God.

他加入了全世界數百萬愛耶穌的人，在耶穌的救贖事工中發揮作用；神的同在充滿了他。

And he is a witness to the truth of the Gospel.

他是福音真理的見證人。

“G” is never alone.

「G」永不孤單。