## Easter 6, Affirmation of Baptism, May 9, 2021

This weekend we are invited into friendship with Jesus. When I was a little girl I longed to be invited to play with my friends. Making new friends was a challenge for my shy personality. Our readings this Sunday inspire and compel us to love one another and see one another as God does. So whether those we meet on a daily basis are strangers or friends, are those with different customs and practices, are family members, or close friends, we are called today with the challenge, the opportunity to love them. Love them for who they are, who God created them to be, because Jesus first loved us.

Four of our young adults will be affirming their baptism this weekend. They are speaking up for themselves about who they believe in and what they believe. These "friends" will share their faith statement, how they have come to know and love the God who knows and loves them. Jesus laid down his life for us to show us how much he loves us. We are invited to love and experience the joy of friendship with Jesus within the body of Christ. See you in worship, dear friends!

Pastor Kristine