

May 5<sup>th</sup>  
(Sixth Sunday of Easter)

## **“Can Anyone Withhold The Water?”**

Main Text: Acts 10:44-48  
(1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17)

Last week, the Eunuch asked Phillip “what would prevent him from being baptized?” This week, we hear Peter making the case for baptizing those who were not circumcised. We are reminded that God’s love is for all people, and nothing should be placed as a block in their way. Where have we prevented others from seeing and receiving the peace of Christ? Our reading from the letter of John reminds us that God’s love conquers the world. We are reminded that God wins. Therefore, we do not limit God’s love but expand it. Jesus tells us a new commandment. The standard has changed. We are not simply to love one another as we would like to be loved. We are to love one another as Christ has loved us. We did not receive this kind of love because we have earned or deserve it. Therefore, we are not to withhold that love from anyone because that is how Christ has loved us. This is how the peace of God with us overcomes the world.