Introduction to the Reading from the Gospel: John 14:15-21

We continue reading from the gospel of John, chapter 14, verses 15-21. Jesus offers hope to the disciples by assuring them that he will not leave them alone; He promises them that he will send them an advocate -- the Holy Spirit. All that is grounded in love: God's love, Jesus' love and our love for each other. Listen to Jesus' words to the disciples and to us: **Reading from the Gospel of John 14:15-21 (NRSV)**

The Promise of the Holy Spirit: ¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep^[a] my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Lord, and the Lord will give you another Advocate,^[b] to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees the Spirit nor knows the Spirit. You know God, because God abides with you, and God will be in^[c] you. ¹⁸ "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in the Lord, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by God, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."