Charlie Brown and Linus and Violet

Joy and peace are fruits of the Spirit – Christian marks.

* In our text, Jesus gives encouragement and comfort to the disciples just hours before His arrest and crucifixion.
* Their whole world is about to be turned upside down.

Our text begins with a question from Judas [son of James]

Judas speaks for the disciples - grieving and anxious about being separated from Jesus

* Jesus does not beat around the bush – He goes to the heart of the matter: *If anyone loves me, he will obey my word*

Many denominations pick and choose what to obey in the Bible to harmonize with secular science and current culture

Jesus promises a teacher: *But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you and bring all things to your remembrance*

Yet what about churches that emphasize dynamic works of the Spirit; speaking in tongues, healings, and new prophecies

We are skeptical of experiential doctrines because the Holy Spirit does not promise to work this way

The Small Catechism is clear about the saving work of the Holy Spirit

* John 16:14 could not be clearer - *He will glorify me* [Jesus]*, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you*

Jesus promises peace by the Spirit: *Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.*

Jesus makes a startling statement in Verse 28: *The Father is greater than I.*

* Arianism denies that Jesus is equal in essence and being with God
* There is one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

The time for talk is over – *the prince of this world is coming. He has no claim on Jesus and no claim on you or me*

* Our eternal spiritual advantage is at the expense of Jesus
  + He cries blood in Gethsemane
  + He craws and stumbles in agony to the cross
  + His suffers the wrath of God and sheds his blood for our sin
* His ascension is prerequisite to pouring out his Holy Spirit
* Pre-Pentecost versus Pentecost Disciples
* Your Pentecost is baptism - *For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body* [I Cor 12]
* The Holy Spirit is the spirit of truth - speak the truth about Jesus boldly.