

# Second Hand Preacher

*Third Sunday of Easter*

April 10, 2016

## **Revelation 5:11-14**

I've been celebrating Mass at St. Scholastica for over 6 years. They have a great music program which includes many Praise and Worship songs. The music is uplifting and prayerful. I wasn't real familiar with this music, but it has really grown on me. I believe there is something inside us that wants to worship. Often we may worship people or things that are not God. This may be captivating, but often ends up making us feel empty when the object of our worship lets us down. God, on the other hand, is love. According to St. Paul's First letter to the Corinthians, "Love never fails." Love is more than a feeling. It is an action that motivates to help others. The ultimate act of love is the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus. That great love deserves worship.

The author of Revelation uses great vision to make this point of worship. This author, identified as John, gives us a glimpse of life eternal. He tells of one even the elders worship. There is one who is designated to sit on the throne. We believe this is God the Father. The Father is responsible for all creation and thus is deserving of worship. It is not the Father alone who deserves worship, it is also the Lamb. Jesus Christ is that Lamb. In the Gospel of John, Jesus dies at the same time the Passover lambs are slaughtered. The lambs at Passover help the Jews recall the great miracle of God interceding for their freedom. Jesus, the true lamb, dies that we may also have life. We are saved from death and thus making the Lamb worthy of worship.

The Lamb is an intimate part of our liturgy. At the precise moment the host is fractured and the Body and Blood of Jesus become mixed, we are called to worship. Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb. These are powerful words from the Mass that are heard by the people when they are on their knees and are presented the holy elements. The next action is the priest receiving the Body and Blood of Jesus. This spiritual food is then shared with the faithful. This is the Lamb who should be worshipped.