

05-15-22 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“The love command Jesus here gives to his disciples is typically understood as both the center of Jesus’ teaching and the center of Christian life.”

- Lewis R. Donelson



John 13:31-35

Questions for Reflection —

- How have you known and experienced Jesus’ love for you? What would it look like for that love to be manifest in all you say and all you do? How is your witness to Jesus’ love made manifest in your interactions in your family? In your school/workplace? With your friends? With those whom you find difficult? In your neighborhood? In the larger community?

- What would it mean for you to make the love command the center of your life? What undermines your efforts to do so? What would help you to overcome those struggles? What is one small step you can take towards loving more as Jesus loves? How can we as a congregation better encourage one another to grow in love?

- What does a community defined by love look like? In what ways is our congregation functioning as a community of love? How do we demonstrate love for one another? For those in our surrounding community? In what ways do we fall short in being a community of love? What would it take for our congregation to live more fully into being such a community?

Daily Household Prayer

Loving God, you made us Easter people through Jesus Christ. Encourage your children with the presence of the Risen Christ, and strengthen us by his Spirit. You call us to love you and our neighbor. But we are short on patience and thin on empathy. We tire too easily and tend to opt out of relationships rather than to work through difficulties. O God, give us trust in your forgiving grace and renewal. Keep us humble enough to take small steps in the life of loving, to encourage one another. For your love’s sake, we pray. Amen.