

## Order of Worship for Sunday, May 9, 2021

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*Happy Mothers' Day! We lift all the mothers and mother figures who have blessed our lives.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

June 1-7 - Pastor Theresa is on vacation. Pastor Valerie Delooze will be on call for urgent pastoral needs at 814-880-2367.

June 16 - Clergy Virtual Session of Susquehanna Annual Conference

June 18-19 - Virtual Session of Susquehanna Annual Conference; Beth Brown and Randy Muthersbaugh are the charge Lay Members to AC

### CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Beloved, we are called to love one another, because love is from God.

**P: God's love is poured in us from our birth.**

L: We are called to extend the love of God to all people.

**P: God's loved is taught to us through the witness of God's faithful people.**

L: We are called to proclaim God's love in all that we say and do.

**P: In all creation, in all our relationships, may God's love be made known. AMEN.**

### OPENING PRAYER

**God of songs and marvels, old and new, your powerful love for this world continues to astound us. In these last days of Easter, we gather to recall the love that brought Jesus into this world and into our lives: as savior, friend and brother. We thank you for welcoming us into your household and for trusting us with your marvelous work to draw all people into the spacious home of your love. Amen.**

HYMN Jesus Is All the World to Me UMH 469

### BLESSING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS – DOXOLOGY

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here below. Praise him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE As I Have Loved You

JOYS AND CONCERNS - (The Lord's Prayer "trespass")

SELECTED SCRIPTURE 1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8

MESSAGE True Friendship

HYMN: Blest Be the Tie That Binds UMH 557

COMMISSION & BLESSING

PASTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

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BIBLE STUDY: No Greater Love

Read John 15:9-17

Write a one-sentence definition of love. [Here's mine – Love is compassionate, sacrificial, tangible, and committed.]

What might it mean for you that Jesus commanded us to “love one another as I have loved you” (v. 12)? (It is not optional. Nor is loving one another merely expressing good thoughts; we are called to embody love, as Jesus who gave himself for the world—which is also expressed in verse 13.)

What might it mean for your church that Jesus commanded the church to “love one another” (v. 17)?

Whom do you find it difficult to love?

In American society, it is typical to think of limited resources or scarcity. Contrary to this, how is love compounding? (That is to say, how does showing love often have multiplying effect?)

CLOSING PRAYER

*Loving God, you have not commanded what you have not expressed. In fact, love is at the core of your nature. We know that as we grow in relationship with you, we cannot help but have love increased in our lives. Lord, help us not merely to have loving feelings or emotions, but to find tangible ways to express love to those nearest us this week. Amen.*