First UMC Franklin, NC Order of Worship-May 9, 2021

Prelude "Open My Eyes That I May See" (Scott, #28287818)

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Music "The Gift of Love" (Hopson, #67327)

Children's Moments

Sharing the Peace

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory "Fly Away Home" (McDonald, 2013)

Scripture John 15:9-17 (NIV)

⁹ "Just as the Father has loved me, I have loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love. In the same way, I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that you will have the same joy that I have. I also want your joy to be complete. ¹² Here is my command. Love one another, just as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than the one who gives their life for their friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I do not call you slaves anymore. Slaves do not know their master's business. Instead, I have called you friends. I have told you everything I learned from my Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose me. Instead, I chose you. I appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit that will last. I also appointed you so that the Father will give you what you ask for. He will give you whatever you ask for in my name. ¹⁷ Here is my command. Love one another.

Message "What's Love Got to Do with It?"

Throughout this passage Jesus says we are to love one another. What does that tell us about what he thinks is important?

Why is what Jesus says in this passage counter-cultural, a radical kind of love?

What does a life of sacrificial love look like for you? Where have you seen sacrificial love, especially during the pandemic?

When Jesus talks about choosing us and appointing us, what does that mean for you?

What are some ways you might share your love with others? How might you be more loving to someone that you find very hard to love?

Benediction

Postlude "The Bond of Love"

(Skillings, #14459)