

“How We Should Love?”

Dr. Tim Bruster

Matthew 5:43-48

Traditional Worship

11:00 am

January 7, 2018

## WE GATHER

Prelude — O Love How Deep, How Broad, How High  
David N. Johnson, arranger

Welcome

Choral Call to Worship

\*Call to Worship (from John 13 and 1 John 4)

Jesus offers a new commandment, that we should  
**love one another.**

With the incredible power and depth of God’s love for us,  
we can, we must,

**love one another.**

And it is in this, our love for one another  
that the world will know who we truly worship.

Come, children of God, let us

**love one another.**

\*Hymn 549 — Where Charity and Love Prevail

Where **charity** and love prevail, there God is ever found;  
Brought here together by Christ’s love, by love are we thus bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear God’s **charity** we learn;  
Let us with heart and mind and strength now love God in return.

Forgive we now each other’s faults as we our faults confess;  
And let us love each other well in Christian holiness.

Let strife among us be unknown, let all contention cease;  
Be Christ the glory that we seek, be ours his holy peace.

Let us recall that in our midst dwells God’s begotten Son;  
As members of his body joined, we are in him made one.

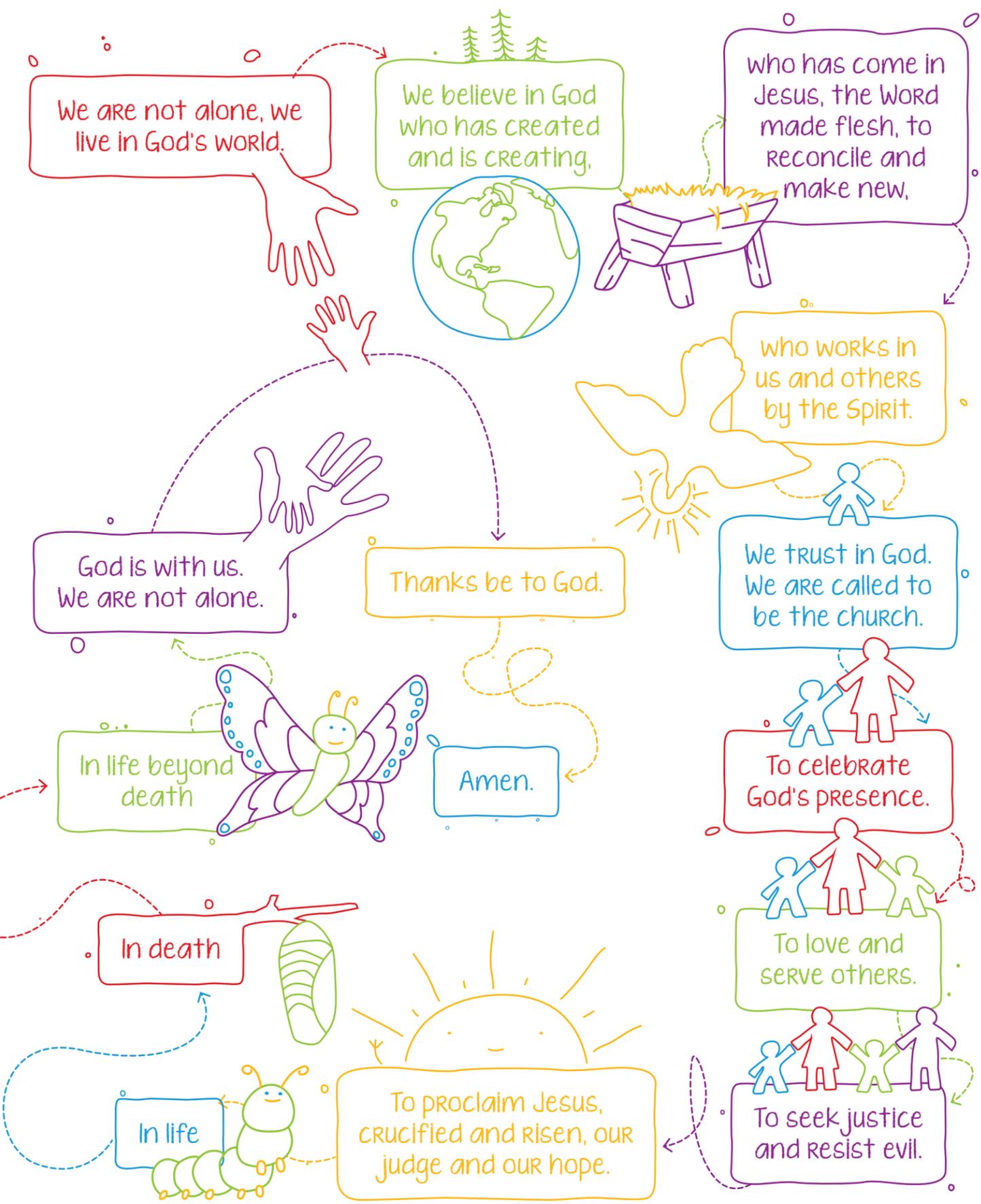
Love can exclude no race or creed, if honored be God’s name;  
Our common life embraces all whose Maker is the same.

Word of the Day:  
Love

Memory Verse:  
Love one  
another.  
— John 13:34

Charity means  
more than giving  
to those in need.  
Charity means the  
love and concern  
for humankind.

# \*Affirmation of Faith



\*Gloria Patri  
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;



Gloria Patri means "Glory to the Father." This short hymn of praise has been sung by Christians for many centuries.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Please be seated. Ushers will assist in seating at this time.

## WE PROCLAIM

Sacrament of Baptism  
 Charles Boyce and Emma Jane Kyle O'Jibway, twins of Allison and Jay O'Jibway

Baptismal Hymn 191 (vs. 1) – Jesus Loves Me

Congregational Response  
 With God's help we will so order our lives after the example of Christ that **Charles Boyce and Emma Jane Kyle**, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

Baptism: When someone is baptized, it's a chance for all of us to celebrate how much God loves that person. God loves each one of us, not because of anything we do, but simply because we are God's children.

Special Music – Lord of All Hopefulness  
 Alan Bullard, arranger

Scripture – Matthew 5:43-48  
 God speaks to us through the reading of scripture.  
**Thanks be to God.**

\*Ushers will pass out the attendance pads at this time.

Faith Like a Child

\*Passing the Peace

\*Hymn – God Whose Love Is Always Stronger

God whose love is always stronger than our weakness, pride and fear,  
 In Your world, we pray and wonder how to be more faithful here.  
 Hate too often grows inside us; fear rules what the nations do.  
 So we pray, when wars divide us: give us love, Lord!  
 Make us new!

Love is patient, kind and caring, never arrogant or rude,  
 Never boastful, all things bearing; love rejoices in the truth.  
 When we're caught up in believing war will make the terror cease,  
 Show us Jesus' way of living, may our strength be in Your peace.

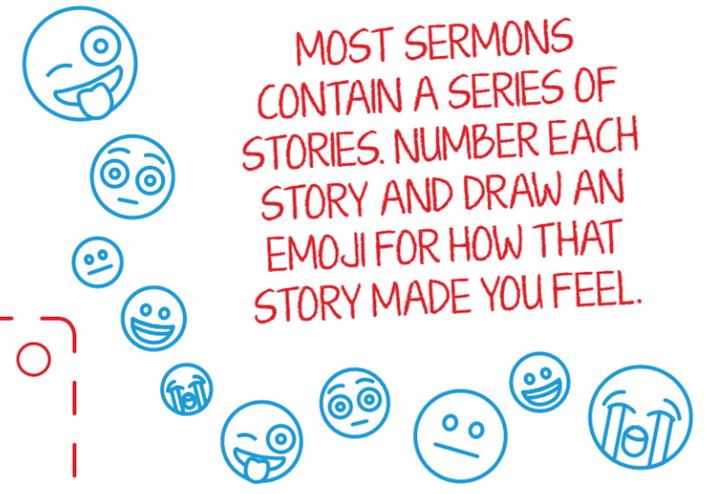
May our faith in You be nourished; may Your churches hear Your call.  
 May our lives be filled with courage as we speak Your love for all.  
 Now emboldened by Your Spirit who has given us new birth,  
 Give us love, that we may share it till Your love renews the earth.

Sermon Snips:  
You don't have to "just sit there." Choose one of the sermon snips and let it guide you as you take your relationship with God to the next level.



# How We Should Love?

MOST SERMONS CONTAIN A SERIES OF STORIES. NUMBER EACH STORY AND DRAW AN EMOJI FOR HOW THAT STORY MADE YOU FEEL.



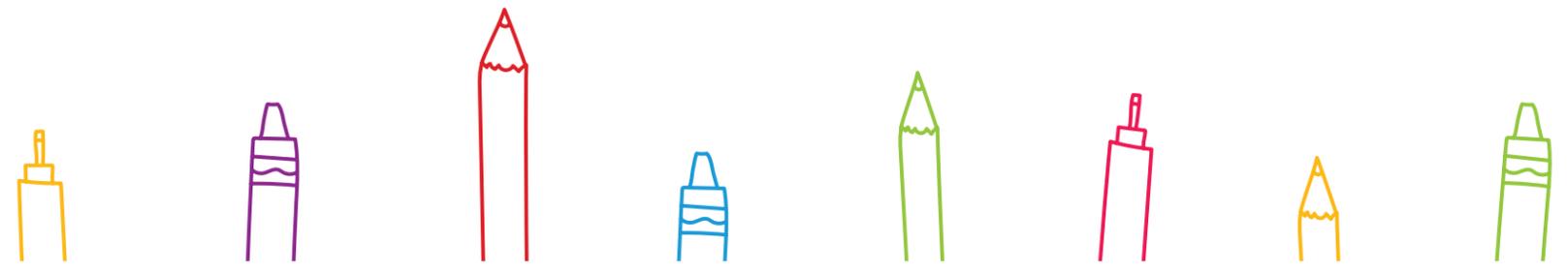
If the sermon is about a Bible hero, think of the person in your life who is most like that hero. Write about that person, or make an illustration.



Did you just hear something you disagree with? Argue about it.



Listen. What is something you hear that gives you a sense of wonder? Of peace? Of hope?



Did the sermon remind you of a story from your life? Write about that story... or illustrate it.

## Pastoral Prayer

## The Lord's Prayer

Find the Prayer Cross in your worship kit. The cord has five knots, and there are five parts to the prayer Jesus taught his friends. Hold each knot between your thumb and forefinger as you say the different parts of the prayer.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

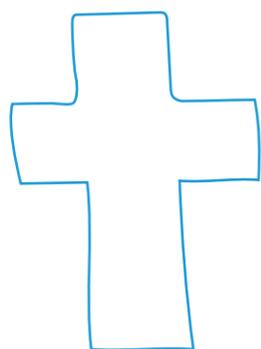
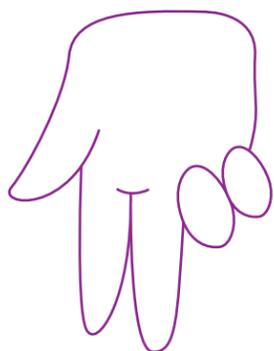
## WE RESPOND

## A Time of Giving

Offertory – Ascribe to the Lord  
Dan Edwards, arranger

## \*Doxology

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



## \*Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.



For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

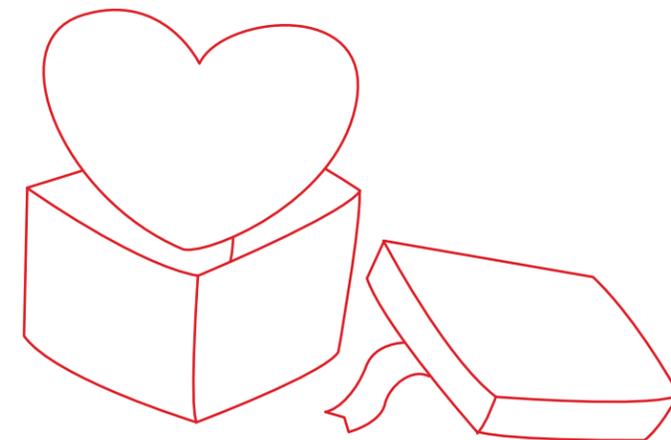
Many years after Jesus went to heaven, the early church added this part of the prayer. Hold the prayer cross close to your heart as you say this part.

## \*Hymn 408 – The Gift of Love

Though I may speak with bravest fire,  
And have the gift to all inspire,  
And have not love, my words are vain,  
As sounding brass and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess,  
And striving so my love profess,  
But not be given by love within,  
The profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,  
Our spirits long to be made whole,  
Let inward love guide every deed;  
By this we worship, and are freed.



## \*Reception of New Members

## \*Benediction

Our gathering will soon be ended, where will we go, and what will we do?  
**We will go out to be God's people in the world.**  
May grace, peace, hope, love, and joy forever accompany you. Amen.

How are you going to be one of God's people in the world this week?

## \*Congregational Closing Song – Let There Be Peace On Earth

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.  
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.  
With God our Creator, children all are we.  
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.  
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now,  
With every breath I take let this be my solemn vow:  
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

## \*Postlude – Woodlands

Setting by David Cherwien

The poinsettias in the Sanctuary are given in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Broderick and Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Smith.

The white carnation symbolizes our sympathy to the family and friends of Elaine Brown.

## Worship Leaders:

Dr. Tim Bruster Senior Pastor  
Mr. Robert Stovall, Director of Music and Worship Arts  
Mrs. Peggy Graff, Organist/Associate Director of Music and Worship Arts  
**Liturgists:** Dr. Mike Marshall, Rev. Phyllis Barren, Ms. Jenny Johnson  
**Faith Like a Child:** Mister Mark, Will Robertson, helper  
**Choir:** Choral Union  
**Soloist:** Avary Vaughn, mezzo soprano  
**Acolytes:** Sam Looney, Will Scott, and Sam Bumgardner  
**Procession:** Lylah Mills

\*Please stand as you are able.

# WORSHIP KIT

↪ INSIDE YOU WILL FIND ↪

## TREASURES OF NATURE BOX

One of the best ways we can experience God's power and love is by cherishing God's handiwork in the wonders of nature. Carefully open the box and discover what treasures wait inside.

## BLANK CARD

You can use the pencil and crayons to make a *Thank You* note for someone in the Sanctuary who helped make worship feel special to you. It could be a parent, a minister, a choir member, an usher, or someone in the next pew who gave you a friendly wave. After the service, ask your parents to take you to hand-deliver the card.

## ANOINTING BALM

Use the anointing balm to bless a friend or family member sitting next to you. Rub a tiny bit of the balm on your thumb and trace the sign of the cross on your neighbor's forehead or back of the hand (whichever they prefer). As you do this, say a simple blessing, such as "God bless you." (It's not just for sneezes.) Or, for a longer blessing, you could say:

*You are a special person.  
God loves you, and so do I.  
Bless you.*

And don't forget to allow your neighbor the privilege of getting to bless you.

## PIPE STEMS

There are so many things you can do with pipe stems. You could:

- Listen to the sermon and sculpt an object you hear mentioned.
- Shape them in the initials of someone you'd like to pray for.
- Look around the Sanctuary and sculpt something you see.
- Sculpt a flower and give it to a family member.
- Make a friendship bracelet and give it to a friend, or to a new member.

## PRAYER CROSS

The cross is such a powerful symbol of God's love and hope. Anytime is a good time to hold on to the cross. See inside the bulletin for how to use the prayer cross during the Lord's Prayer.

## TANGLE

Listen to a piece of music or a Bible story and mold the tangle to show how it makes you feel.

Does it make you feel:

- Open and ready for God's presence?
- Tangled and confused?
- Wrapped snugly and securely?
- Calm like a gentle stream?
- Not sure?

## PENCIL AND CRAYONS

Use these to write notes in your bulletin, draw a prayer, illustrate a story you hear in the sermon, or even ask hard questions.

## CLOTH FIGURE

Here are just a few things you can do with the cloth figure:

- Have it act out the events in the Bible story.
- Help it read the bulletin.
- Gently hold it the way God is holding you right now.

## EYE SPY CARD AND TELESCOPE

Use the Eye Spy card to identify some of the many meaningful objects and symbols in our Sanctuary. Use the telescope to help you explore.

