

Mid-Week Ponderings for May 6, 2020

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

~ I Corinthians 13:1-3

Andy Bischof submitted all of the 13th chapter of I Corinthians, and I chose to write on just the first three verses. However, the entire chapter is about love and likely you have heard it read at a wedding or two in your lifetime; perhaps even your own.

As with everything else these days, love looks different. Love used to be about exchanging a hug or maybe even a kiss on the cheek of a friend. Love used to be about sitting down to a meal across the table from each other and sharing conversation and smiles and stories. Love used to look like serving meals in the basement of Clague Road UCC and providing a warm meal. None of those things are possible these days, but that doesn't mean that love isn't possible.

Now love looks like driving by someone's house on their birthday with balloons on your car and signs wishing him a happy birthday. Now love looks like baking something, leaving it at the door, ringing the doorbell, and walking away. Now love looks like leaving a box of cereal in a bin outside of the church for those in need. Now love looks like putting on a mask when you are going to be in public — like at a store or a drive-up window.

And love is going to look like white flags on the front lawn of Church of the Redeemer to remember every Ohioan who has died from Covid-19. The flags have arrived and will likely be in place by this weekend. Take a drive and see how we are communicating to the community that at Church of the Redeemer, we know how to express our love in this time.

How have you expressed your love during this time of physical separation? How might you be able to express that love? I would love to hear about how you are expressing your love, so if you have a chance, send an email or leave me a message and let me know.

Blessings,
Pastor Brooke