

## Worship Engagement and Devotion for week of May 2, 2021

READ 1 John 4:7-21

Reflections - Life that Looks Like Jesus - 1 John Series – *The Sum of All Religion*



### Reflections – Life that Looks Like Jesus



The season after Easter Sunday is often referred to as "The Great 50 Days" because Easter is a 50-day season of the Church year. These are fifty days for the church to practice living resurrection. During this season at Faith United we are turning our attention to a series titled: Reflections - Life that Looks Like Jesus.

In this series we will explore what it means for those who follow Christ, to live a life that looks like Christ.

Spend some time reflecting on this week's scriptures and engaging in the reflection questions. Record your thoughts in a journal and refer back to them as you journey through 1 John.

### Questions for Reflection:

- How has God shown that God is love?
- What do you learn about love from this week's scripture? Is the love described here an action or a feeling?
- What is the connection between God's love for us and the love we are to have for others?
- Why do you think John Wesley referred to verse 19 of this passage as "the sum of all religion and the genuine model of Christianity?" Describe the sum of all religion in your own words.
- What action can you take this week to love sacrificially? At home? At work? In difficult relationships? In how you use your time? Your resources?
- What inspires you to continue to grow in faith and live as a reflection of Jesus?
- How are you carrying the five Christian practices explored during the January The Walk series into the Easter season?

### Spiritual Practice: Love Feast

Participating in a Love Feast as a family can be a beautiful way to share in faith and fellowship with friends and loved ones. The Love Feast, or Agape Meal, is an opportunity to remember meals that Jesus shared with his disciples as your family comes together for fellowship and to pray, read scripture, sing songs, share, and celebrate how God is at work in your lives.



Your family love feast can consist of whatever foods your family may like. You may want to read this week's scripture together, sing a favorite hymn and pray.

In the tradition of the Love Feast, have each person share what God has been doing in their lives. Share something good they see in the world or in their life. Talk about the hope and trust they place in God for the future. You may want to celebrate by responding to each other with Amen, Hallelujah, Praise the Lord, or other responses as the Spirit moves.

*Be Present at Our Table, Lord* is a beautiful table grace that can be sung or spoken during your family Love Feast:

*Be present at our table, Lord; Be here and everywhere adored;*

*Thy creatures bless, and grant that we May feast in paradise with Thee.* (John Cenick, UMH 621)

Learn more about The Love Feast here - <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/the-love-feast>.