

Valerie's message

May 13, 2022

Dear Friends,

Please join us for worship in person at 10:30 or [click here](#) for the livestream on YouTube.

This week's lectionary Scripture readings deliver us two beautiful passages that invite us into new life. First, Jesus tells us we have a *new* commandment: to love one another. Then the author of Revelation says God is bringing a *new* heaven and a *new* earth.

Though I don't know anything about what a new heaven would be (I don't even really know what the current heaven is!), I'm thinking it's time for both loving one another and a new earth. How about you?

I recently took on the care of a wee little 8-week old puppy. Every single thing is *new* to her. I see her little will held in the balance, engaging in choice — leave it or keep chewing whatever new tempting thing she has discovered.

I wonder if the new commandment to love one another might be an invitation to all humanity: when our ancient conditioning kicks in, do we “leave it” and enter the new life of loving one another? Or do we let the ancient aggressive survival chewing conditioning take us to war, in big or small ways?

Join us if you can as we explore this promise of our faith: new life through love. There may be a few illustrations through the eyes of puppyhood, complements my new “adorable little puppy” or “holy terror,” depending on the moment.

Warmly,

Valerie