



# IS LOVE JUST BUBBLE GUM AND LOLLIPOPS?

*Jesus said 'The greatest commandment is to love God... and second is this: to love your neighbor as yourself.'*

Mark 12:30-31

I know, know. I am dating myself. And yes, for everyone under fifty it is guaranteed to bring a laugh.

As an adolescent and college student, there was a genre of pop music characterized as 'Bubble Gum' and 'Lollipop' songs. They were—how shall we call it?—a lighthearted stab waxing eloquent on such deep subjects as love, romance, trust, breakups, faithfulness, etc.

There is one song I would not necessarily tag as ‘bubblegum.’ It was Dionne Warwick’s hit **WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS NOW**. It made the charts in the late 1960s. Far from a lollipop, it was a profoundly searching and moving prayer.

That song was composed and performed during one of the most devastating and hateful periods in American history: the Vietnam Era. **WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS NOW** was what our world surely needed during those tumultuous decades of the 1960s and 1970s.

**It begs the question: What about now in the Year of Our Lord 2025 AD?** One does not have to be clairvoyant to bring out the laundry list of division, violence, hatred and polarization in our nation and across the world today.

This Lord’s Day is **WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**. Curiously, it was established in 1933 during the Great Depression and with the menacing rise of fascism and a World War that would round out that decade.

At that moment, there was an intense desire for Christians of all stripes to join hands around the world to bear witness to our unity to the one true hope of peace, justice and salvation: The Lord Jesus Christ.

This Sunday millions will gather globally to celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper. The title of the message, inauspiciously stolen from Ms. Warwick is **WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS NOW**. It could not be more timely.

The texts are Leviticus 19:9-18, 37 and Mark 12:28-34. We will

bring into clear biblical focus some substance on that elusive word we call L-O-V-E. This is serious stuff. And I assure you, there's not the slightest hint of bubble gum or lollipops.

See you in worship this Lord's Day.

***Pastor Chuck***

***THIS WEEK'S BULLETIN BELOW***



***We know for ourselves this man...really  
is the Savior of the world!***

John 4:42



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