

PRELUDE

◇ A time of quiet preparation

*What Wondrous Love is This/ S. Marsh
Jesus, Lover of My Soul/ arr. G. Young*

WORDS OF GREETING

WE APPROACH GOD

IN WORD

Ephesians 3:17-21 (NIV)

Leader: I pray that you, being rooted and established in love,
may have power, together with all the saints,

People: **To grasp how wide and long and high and deep
is the love of Christ,**

Leader: And to know this love that surpasses knowledge

People: **That you may be filled to the measure
of all the fullness of God.**

Leader: Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we
ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,

People: **To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus through-
out all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.**

IN PRAYER

*WE PRAISE OUR GOD

HYMN OF PRAISE 535

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!

WE CONFESS OUR FAITH

I John 4:7-12; Galatians 5:13b-15, 6b (NIV)

Leader: Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.

People: **Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.
Whoever does not love does not know God, because God
is love.**

Leader: This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one
and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

People: **This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us
and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.**

Leader: Dear friends, since God so loved us,
we also ought to love one another.

People: **No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another,
God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.**

Leader: But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature;
rather, serve one another in love.

People: **The entire law is summed up in a single command:
“Love your neighbor as yourself.”**

Leader: If you keep on biting and devouring each other,
watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

People: **The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself
through love.**

*WE EXALT OUR LORD

WORSHIP SONGS

Leader: Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so
that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another
deeply, from the heart. For you have been born again, not of
perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and
enduring word of God. I Peter 1:22-23 (NIV)

MISSION VIDEO

Friendship Community

WE GREET ONE ANOTHER

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (4 years old to 1st grade)

WELCOME TO VISITORS

WE SEEK GOD'S FACE

Prayers of God's People

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

OFFERING/ OFFERTORY

Think About His Love/ arr. M. Hayes

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

I Corinthians 13:1-8a

¹ If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love,
I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the
gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge,
and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I
am nothing. ³ If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my
body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast,
it is not proud. ⁵ It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily

angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. ⁸ Love never fails.

Colossians 3:12-14 (NIV)

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Romans 12:9-21 (NIV)

⁹ Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. ¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. ¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ¹³ Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. ¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. ²⁰ On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

SERMON

The Sacrifice of Sincere Love
series: Living Sacrifices for Jesus
Rev. Thomas E. Nicholas

***WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

HYMN OF RESPONSE **597**

*WORDS OF PEACE

Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

This Is the Day That the Lord Has Made! arr. M. Hayes

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING