

**HAGERSVILLE UNITED CHURCH &
SPRINGVALE UNITED CHURCH
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9th, 2025**

Ministry of Caring: The Whole People of God
Ministry of Pastoral Care & Worship: Rev. Peggy Bartlett
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God's love means everything to believers—it is the foundation of their faith. It is unconditional, sacrificial, and everlasting. God's love brings forgiveness, redemption, and a deep sense of belonging. It assures believers that they are never alone, no matter their struggles. Through Jesus Christ, God's love is fully revealed, offering grace, hope, and eternal life.

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, everything we have is a gift from You. Out of love, You have given us life, salvation, and hope. As we bring our gifts before You today, may they be used to spread Your love in this world. Teach us to give with generous hearts, reflecting Your love in all we do. Bless these offerings, that they may be used for Your glory. In Jesus' name, we pray. **Amen.**

PRELUDE AND WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, all who are weary, for Jesus welcomes you with open arms.

People: His love is deep, wide, and beyond measure!

Leader: Come, all who doubt, for Jesus' love is constant even when we struggle.

People: His love is patient, kind, and never failing!

Leader: Come, all who rejoice, for Jesus' love gives us life!

People: We lift our voices in praise, for we are loved beyond comprehension!

Leader: Let us worship the One who loves us with an everlasting love!

OPENING HYMN: #299 Teach Me, God, to Wonder

1 Teach me, God, to wonder, teach me, God, to see;
let your world of beauty capture me.

**R: Praise to you be given, love for you be lived,
life be celebrated, joy you give!**

2 Let me, God, be open, let me loving be.
let your world of people speak to me. **R**

3 Let me, God, be ready, let me be awake.
in your world of loving my place take. **R**

4 Teach me, God, to know you, hear you when you speak,
see you in my neighbour when we meet. **R**

OPENING PRAYER

Loving Jesus, you know us completely—our strengths and weaknesses, our faith and our doubts. And yet, you love us still. Thank you for Your endless patience, grace, and kindness. In this time of worship, remind us again of the depth of Your love, that we may live with joy and confidence as Your beloved children. Open our hearts to receive Your love, and help us share it with the world. In Your precious name, we pray. **Amen.**

ANTHEM

CHILDREN'S TIME

CHILDREN'S VIDEO

LITANY: "Jesus Loves Us, Even When..."

Leader: Jesus loves us, even when we hit snooze too many times and forget to pray.

People: *Wait... even then?*

Leader: Jesus loves us, even when we doubt and ask, “God, are You sure You’ve got the right person?”

People: *Really? Even when we second-guess You?*

Leader: Jesus loves us, even when we get impatient in traffic, grumble in the checkout line, or sigh loudly at slow Wi-Fi.

People: *Even when we’re not exactly patient and kind?*

Leader: Jesus loves us, even when we overcomplicate faith, looking for a checklist instead of resting in grace.

People: *So... we don’t have to earn it?*

Leader: Jesus loves us, even when we say, “I trust You, Lord,” but still try to control everything ourselves.

People: *Even when we take the wheel back?*

Leader: Jesus loves us, even when we compare ourselves to others and forget we are fearfully and wonderfully made.

People: *Even when we don’t love ourselves?*

Leader: Jesus loves us, even when we make a mess of things—big messes, little messes, and the kind we pretend aren’t our fault.

People: *Even when it’s totally our fault?*

Leader: Jesus loves us, even when we question if He really, truly, absolutely loves us.

People: *Even when we wonder if He’s tired of us?*

Leader: Jesus loves us. Always. Forever. No exceptions. No fine print. No expiration date.

People: *Thank God for that!*

Leader: Jesus loves us, even when we question if we are worthy of His love.

People: *His love never fails!*

Leader: Jesus loves us, always, forever, no matter what.

People: *Thanks be to God! Amen!*

CHORUS: #365 Jesus Loves Me

1 Jesus loves me, this I know,
for the Bible tells me so;
little ones to him belong,
in his love we shall be strong.

R: Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The bible tells me so.

2 Jesus loves me, this I know,
as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee,
saying, "Let them come to me." **R**

3 Jesus loves me still today,
walking with me on my way,
wanting as a friend to give
light and love to all who live. **R**

SCRIPTURE READINGS: 1 John 4:9-10, Romans 5:8, John 3:16,
1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

1 John 4:9-10

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

— Jesus’ love is proactive, reaching out to us first.

Romans 5:8

"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

— Jesus’ love is unconditional; He gave His life for us even before we turned to Him.

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

— This verse highlights the depth of God's love, shown through Jesus’ sacrifice.

1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

13 If I speak in the tongues^[a] of men or of angels, but do not have 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 do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast,^[b] but do not have 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 does not dishonor others, 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. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. ¹¹ When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. ¹² For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

¹³ And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

MESSAGE: The Unshakable Love of Jesus

Have you ever had one of those moments where you looked up to heaven and said, “*Lord, are You sure? Are You sure You still love me after that? Are You sure I’m worth it?*”

Maybe it was after you lost your patience. Maybe it was when you wrestled with doubt or when you felt unworthy of God’s love. Maybe it was when you made a mistake so big that you thought, “*Surely, Jesus must be at His limit with me by now.*”

If that’s ever, been you, I have good news today: *Jesus’ love does not come with an expiration date.* It doesn’t run out, wear thin, or get revoked when we mess up. The Bible gives us overwhelming proof that Jesus loves us—not just when we’re at our best, but even when we’re at our worst.

And yet... we still question it, don’t we?

So let us explore the question that myself, and maybe you have asked over the years “Jesus, Are You Sure You Love Me... Even When I Doubt?”

First, of all let me remind you of these verses... we all know them....

- John 3:16 – “For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son...”
- Romans 5:8 – “While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”
- 1 Corinthians 13:7 – “Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”

Yet we Doubt! Doubt is part of the journey. The disciples doubted. Thomas needed proof. Peter lost faith on the water. But Jesus met them in their doubt with love and reassurance.

Maybe you’ve wrestled with faith, with questions about God’s plan, about your worth, about whether God really loves you. That doesn’t scare Jesus away. His love is not based on how strong our faith is. Even when we doubt, His love perseveres.

Now next question that I have often heard.... “Jesus, Are You Sure You Love Me... Even When I Mess Up?” once again here are some verses that remind us of Jesus’s Love for us....

- Matthew 11:28-29 – “Come to me, all who are weary, and I will give you rest.”
- Galatians 2:20 – “I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”
- 1 Corinthians 13:5 – “Love keeps no record of wrongs.”

We keep track of our mistakes. We replay them in our minds, convinced we’ve gone too far. But Jesus’ love keeps no record of wrongs.

Peter denied Jesus three times—one of the biggest failures in Scripture. But when Jesus met Peter after the resurrection, He didn’t say, “I told you so.” Instead, He asked, “Do you love Me?” And then He gave Peter a new mission.

Jesus does the same with us. Our failures don’t disqualify us from His love. Instead, He restores us, calls us by name, and invites us to keep walking with Him.

And now the last question “Jesus, Are You Sure You Love Me... Even When I Don’t Love Myself?” once again scripture has the answers

- Ephesians 3:17-19 – “That you may grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.”
- 1 John 4:9-10 – “This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us...”
- 1 Corinthians 13:4 – “Love is patient, love is kind.”

We are often our own worst critics. We look in the mirror and see our flaws. We compare ourselves to others. We assume Jesus loves us in general, but maybe not personally.

But His love is patient. His love is kind. It does not depend on how lovable we feel.

His love is bigger than your biggest mistake, deeper than your darkest thought, and more powerful than your worst day.
Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 13 are not just about human relationships; they describe Jesus' love for us.

- "Love is patient." (*Jesus never gives up on you.*)
- "Love is kind." (*Jesus doesn't wait for you to be perfect to love you.*)
- "It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres." (*Even when you doubt, even when you fail.*)
- "Love never fails." (*Jesus never stops loving you—ever.*)

Jesus' love is not a fragile, conditional love. It is an unbreakable, relentless, eternal love.

And finally you might ask okay..... What do we Do with this Love?

If Jesus loves us this much—even in our doubts, our failures, our weaknesses—how should we respond?

We embrace it. We rest in it. And we share it.

You don't have to earn this love. You don't have to deserve it. You just have to receive it.

Instead of asking, "Are You sure, Jesus?" let's start saying, "Thank You, Jesus."

Because yes.....we are loved by God and his son Jesus.

HYMN: #333 Love Divine, All Love Excelling

1 Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

2 Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

3 Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gracious Lord, You love us beyond what we can comprehend, and for that, we give thanks. Today, we lift up our prayers to You, trusting in Your faithful love.

For those who are struggling—whether in body, mind, or spirit—wrap them in Your healing embrace.

For those who feel unworthy of love, remind them that Your love has no conditions.

For those who are burdened by grief, give them the peace that only You can provide.

For those who lead, may they govern with wisdom, kindness, and justice.

For those who doubt, assure them that Your love is bigger than their questions.

And for all of us, Lord, help us to live each day in the joy and freedom of knowing we are fully, completely, and eternally loved by You. We offer these prayers in the name of Jesus, who showed us the greatest love of all. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN: #599 Living Christ, Bring Us Love

1 Living Christ, bring us love,
love for every stranger;
Living Christ, bring us love,
love from cross and manger.

2 Living Christ, bring us joy,
joy of earth and heaven;
Living Christ, bring us joy,
joy of sin forgiven.

3 Living Christ, bring us peace,
peace with God and neighbour;
Living Christ, bring us peace,
peace in all our labour.

- 4 Living Christ, bring us love,
love shared at your table;
Living Christ, bring us love,
love from cross and stable.
- 5 Living Christ, lead us out,
out to tell the story;
Living Christ, lead us out,
out to show your glory.

BENEDICTION

Go now in the confidence that you are loved—deeply, unconditionally,
and forever.

Go in the joy that Jesus' love never wavers, no matter where you are on
the journey.

Go in the peace of Christ, who walks with you always.

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and always.

CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE

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Announcements

Friday, February 14th: Soup Lunch at Hagersville from 11:30am-1pm.
Tickets are \$10/person. Takeout Only. Chicken Noodle, Hamburger &
Potato & Corn Chowder. Call Susan at 905-768-3729 by February 13th
to order ahead.

Sunday, February 16th: Springvale Annual Meeting immediately
following worship. Lunch details to follow.

Sunday, February 16th: Peggy will be at Springvale's annual meeting.
Peter & Jo-Ann will be leading the service that Peggy has prepared.

Tuesday, February 18th: Coffee Tuesday at Springvale beginning at
9:30am. All are welcome!

Sunday, February 23rd: Hagersville's Annual Meeting immediately
following worship. Potluck lunch to follow, please bring main course or
dessert.

**Please bring paper products for the Hagersville Food
Bank! 😊**

