

SERVICE FOCUS

God tells us in 1 Corinthians that love is "the most excellent" to live because love is the essence of God Himself. As Pastor Jerry McNamara leads us further into our summer series studying 1 Corinthians, we marvel again at the aspects of love Jesus showed us and seek His empowerment to love the same way.

+ WORSHIP THE GOD WHO LOVES US +

LSB 525 CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS sts. 1–3

- 1 Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king Through all eternity.

- 2 Crown Him the virgin's Son, The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won Which now His brow
adorn:
Fruit of the mystic rose, Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows, The babe of Bethlehem.

- 3 Crown Him the Lord of love. Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes At mysteries so
bright.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

P Lord, the unfolding of Your words gives light.

C **Your Word imparts understanding to the simple.**

P Keep steady our steps according to Your promise,

C **and let no iniquity gain dominion over us.**

P Cast us not away from Your presence,

C **and take not Your Holy Spirit from us.**

P Restore to us the joy of Your salvation,

C **and uphold us with a willing spirit.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P We are God's people. Through His Word, He has given us wisdom and understanding to follow His ways. Yet, there are times when we have chosen foolishness over wisdom, willful ignorance instead of understanding. Still, even now, our heavenly Father invites us to come to Him and ask for forgiveness.

Silence for reflection.

P Heavenly Father,

C **we have ignored Your Word. We have lived according to our own commands rather than Yours. We have chosen the wisdom of the world instead of Your perfect wisdom. Forgive us, create in us new hearts, and renew right**

spirits within us, so that we may follow where You are leading, for the sake of Jesus. Amen.

P Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom and grace, sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die and rise for our sins. Because of Jesus, the joy of our salvation is restored, and no iniquity can remain in dominion over us. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen. We are forgiven in Christ. We have been cleansed of our sin. Amen.

LSB 525 CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS sts. 4–5

4 Crown Him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.

5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The wondrous name of
Love.

Crown Him with many crowns As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, For He is king of all.

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SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

+ GOD'S WORD FOR US +

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Deuteronomy 6:3–12 NIV

³ Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, promised you.
⁴ Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.^[a] ⁵ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.
¹⁰ When the Lord your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you—a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, ¹¹ houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant—then when you eat and are satisfied, ¹² be careful that you do not forget the Lord, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 12:31b—13:13 NIV

^{12:31b} And yet I will show you the most excellent way.
^{13:1} If I speak in the tongues 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, 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 7:36–50 NIV

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁶ When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. ³⁷ A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the

Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume.

³⁸ As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.

³⁹ When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner."

⁴⁰ Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you."

"Tell me, teacher," he said.

⁴¹ "Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?"

⁴³ Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven."

"You have judged correctly," Jesus said.

⁴⁴ Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶ You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. ⁴⁷ Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little."

⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

⁴⁹ The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"

⁵⁰ Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HWC 1 JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE

- 1 Joyful, joyful we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee, Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

- 2 All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain Call us to rejoice in Thee.

- 3 Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, All who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the joy divine.

- 4 Mortals, join the happy chorus Which the morning stars began;
Father love is reigning o'er us, Brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sun-ward In the triumph song of life.

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MESSAGE: EAGER TO LIVE OUT GOD'S LOVE! Eagerly 1 Corinthians Study, part 13

NICENE CREED

**☐ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven**

**and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;**

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

**And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures**

and ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,**

whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

**who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified,**

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

**and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.**

OUR PRAYERS TO OUR LOVING HEAVENLY FATHER

+ SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION +

INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNION

LORD'S PRAYER

**☐ Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

WORDS OF OUR LORD

**☐ Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed,
took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and
gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝
body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when
He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it,
all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which**

is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

+ HYMN OF COMMUNION +

LSB 751 O GOD OF LOVE, O KING OF PEACE

sts. 1–2, 4

- 1 O God of love, O King of peace,
Make wars throughout the world to cease;
The rage of nations now restrain:
Give peace, O God, give peace again!
- 2 Remember, Lord, Thy works of old,
The wonders that Thy people told;
Remember not our sins' dark stain:
Give peace, O God, give peace again!
- 4 Where saints and angels dwell above,
All hearts are knit in holy love;
O bind us in that heav'nly chain:
Give peace, O God, give peace again!

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BENEDICTION

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- G** **Amen.**

HWC 513 O, HOW HE LOVES YOU AND ME

1 Oh how He loves you and me
Oh how He loves you and me
He gave His life
What more could He give
Oh how He loves you
Oh how He loves me
Oh how He loves you and me

2 Jesus to Calv'ry did go
His love for sinners to show
What He did there
Brought hope from despair
Oh how He loves you
Oh how He loves me
Oh how He loves you and me

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