



Sunday, May 5th, 2024
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Service Theme
**JESUS' BUSINESS IS LOVE;
THEREFORE, SO IS OURS**

The entirety of God's Word can be summed up in one word: love. God's Law is all about love. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart... " and "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:37,39). The gospel is all about love: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son..." (John 3:16). From his compassion for the sick and broken, to his sacrificial death on the cross, to the peace he provided after his resurrection, Jesus was the perfect embodiment of love. Love is his business. Therefore, love is our business too. The resurrection reality is that with the same supernatural power by which God raised Jesus from the dead, God now enables us to live a new life—one marked by radically selfless love. The motivation and ability to do this comes from seeing the endless love Christ has for us. We love only because he first loved us.

Hymn

CW 497 This Is My Will

1 “This is my will, my one command,
That love should dwell among you all.
This is my will, that you should love
As I have shown that I love you.

2 “No greater love can any have
Than that one die to save his friends.
You are my friends if you obey
What I command that you should do.

3 “I call you now no longer slaves;
No slave knows all the master does.
I call you friends, for all I hear
My Father say, you hear from me.

4 “You chose not me, but I chose you,
That you should go and bear much fruit.
I chose you out that you in me
Should bear much fruit that will abide.

5 “All that you ask my Father dear
For my name’s sake you shall receive.
This is my will, my one command,
That love should dwell in each, in all.”

Order of Service

Service of Word and Sacrament (CW p.26)

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of
God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with
you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called 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.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

(CW p.27)

- M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.
- C: *(sing)* Lord, have mercy.**
- M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.
- C: *(sing)* Christ, have mercy.**

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: *(sing)* **Lord, have mercy.**

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

C: *(sing)* **Amen**

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

C: *(sing)*

O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

Almighty God, merciful Father, you crown our life with your love.

You take away our sin; you comfort our spirit; you make us pure and holy in your sight.

You did not spare your only Son, but gave him up for us all.

O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

**O Son of God, eternal Word of the Father, you came to live with us;
you made your Father known;
you washed us from our sins in your own blood.**

You are the King of glory; you are the Lord!

O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(CW p.29)

M: Let us pray.

O God, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (Sing) Amen.

1st Lesson

Acts 8:26–40 (EHV)

The LORD's love for the lost brought Phillip in contact with a man who didn't know Jesus. Love for the LORD and the man moved Phillip to reveal Jesus from the Bible.

²⁶Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is an isolated area.) ²⁷So he got up and went. And there was a man, an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, Queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship. ²⁸He was on his way home, sitting in his chariot and reading the prophet Isaiah.

²⁹The Spirit told Philip, "Go over there and stay close to that chariot." ³⁰Philip ran up to it and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet.

Philip asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?"

³¹The man replied, "How can I unless someone explains it to me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

³²Now the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading was this:

He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,
and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who will talk about his generation?

For his life is taken from the earth.

³⁴The eunuch said to Philip, “I ask you, who is the prophet talking about—himself or someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip began to speak. Starting with that very passage of Scripture, he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were traveling along the road, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What is there to prevent me from being baptized?”

³⁸He ordered the chariot to stop. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they stepped up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away. The eunuch did not see him anymore, but went on his way rejoicing.

⁴⁰Philip, however, found himself at Azotus. And as he went from place to place, he preached the gospel in all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Psalm

89 (CW p. 98)

Refrain

**At the works of your hands, O Lord, I lift up my voice
in song; I sing for joy.**

I will sing of the LORD'S great love forever;*

**I will make your faithfulness known through all
generations.**

I will declare that your love stands firm forever;*

**that you established your faithfulness in heaven
itself.**

The heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,*

**your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy
ones.**

Refrain

O LORD God Almighty, who is like you?*

**You are mighty, O LORD, and your faithfulness
surrounds you.**

**Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you,*
who walk in the light of your presence, O LORD.**

They rejoice in your name all day long;*
they exult in your righteousness.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*

and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

Second Lesson

1 John 4:7-11,19-21 (EHV)

Friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

⁷Dear friends, let us love one another, because love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸The one who does not love has not known God, because God is love. ⁹This is how God's love for us was revealed: God has sent his only-begotten Son into the world so that we may live through him. ¹⁰This is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Dear friends, if God loved us so much, we also should love one another...

¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," but hates his brother, he is a liar. For how can anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, love God, whom he has not seen?

Verse of the Day

(CW p.30)

Alleluia. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. Alleluia. (Mark 10:45)

C: (sing) Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel Lesson

John 15:9-17 (EHV)

The living Lord gives us this command. Remain in his love so that we might also love each other.

⁹“As the Father has loved me, so also I have loved you. Remain in my love. ¹⁰If you hold on to my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have held on to my Father’s commands and remain in his love.

¹¹I have told you these things so that my joy would continue to be in you and that your joy would be complete.

¹²“This is my command: Love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this: that someone lays down his life for his friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you continue to do the things I instruct you. ¹⁵I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, because everything that I heard from my Father, I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will endure, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ¹⁷These things I am instructing you, so that you love one another.

C: (sing) Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn

CW 560:2-5 I Hear the Savior Calling

**2 I hear the Savior calling! He leads a soul to me,
A soul in bitter anguish, One needing to be free.
The gift I have to offer Is Christ, my Lord's decree
That all have been forgiven—My Savior calls for me!**

**3 I hear the Savior calling! He gives this charge to me:
To serve the best I'm able, Whate'er the call may be.
Thus hand in hand with others Who share the gospel key
We spread the gospel tidings—My Savior calls for me!**

**4 I hear the Savior calling! He changes hearts for me.
From door to door I witness To bring my Savior's plea;
Yet nothing can be added, No word on bended knee,
Beyond the simple gospel—My Savior calls for me!**

**5 I hear the Savior calling! His call has urgency!
Each moment souls are dying; Soon comes eternity.
And so, my precious Savior, This is my humble plea:
Prepare me for my mission For you are calling me!**

Sermon Text & Theme

Acts 8:26-40... The Gospel for Ontario

1. The Mountain. 2. The Method. 3. The Maintenance

Nicene Creed

(CW p.31)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of
heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light
from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not
made, of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Prayer of the Church

(CW p.32)

M: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

C: **Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.**

M: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Lord's Prayer

(CW p.32)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

The Sacrament

(CW p.33)

M: The Lord be with you.

C: *(sing)* **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: *(sing)* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: *(sing)* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. *He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church.* Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

C: *(sing)* **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glory.
You are my God, and I will exalt you.
I will give you thanks, for you have become
my salvation.
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glory.**

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: *(sing)* Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.

Distribution

Thanksgiving

(CW p.36)

C: *(sing)* Thank the Lord and sing his praise.

Tell ev'ryone what he has done.

**Let all who seek the Lord rejoice
and proudly bear his name.**

**He renews his promises and leads his people
forth**

in joy with shouts of thanksgiving.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(sing)* Amen.

Blessing
(CW p.37)

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: *(Sing)* Amen. Amen. Amen.

Hymn

CW 499 O God of Mercy, God of Might

**1 O God of mercy, God of might,
In love and mercy infinite,
Teach us, as ever in your sight, To live our lives to you.**

**2 You sent your Son for all to die
That fallen man might live thereby.
Oh, hear us, for to you we cry In hope, O Lord, to you.**

**3 Teach us the lesson Jesus taught:
To feel for those his blood has bought,
That ev'ry deed and word and thought
May work a work for you.**

**4 All are redeemed, both far and wide,
Since Jesus Christ for all has died;
Grant us the will, and grace provide,
To love them all in you.**

**5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care
May we each other's burdens share;
May we, where help is needed, there
Give help as though to you.**

**6 And may your Holy Spirit move
All those who live to live in love
Till you receive in heav'n above
All those who lived for you.**

Announcements

Church Cleaners:

May 12 - Barnabas // May 19 - Luke

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

Su (5) 9:00 am Sunday School and Bible Class

10:30 am Worship (with Communion)

12:00 pm First Fellowship

12:00 pm Evangelism

3:00 pm Worship in Poltimore

We (8) 5:30 pm "Test the Spirits"

Th (9) 6:30 pm Youth Bowling at Merivale Lanes

Fr (10) 3:00 pm Online Women's Bible Study

4:30 pm Youth Confirmation (D)

Su (12) 9:00 am Sunday School and Bible Class

10:30 am Worship

We (15) 5:30 pm "Test the Spirits"

Th (16) 6:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)

Fr (17) 3:00 pm Online Women's Bible Study

4:30 pm Youth Confirmation (D)

Su (19) 9:00 am Sunday School and Bible Class

10:30 am Worship (with Communion)

3:00 pm Worship in Poltimore



**Divine Word
Evangelical Lutheran Church**

1081 Greenbank Rd.,
Ottawa, ON., K2B 5A8
613-825-1629

www.divinewordottawa.ca