Sunday Service ~ August 17, 2025 Service for Swansea & Charlestown Presbyterian Church Welcome & Prayer

"LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens.

² Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.

³ When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

⁴ what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

⁵ You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honour.

⁶ You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet:

⁷ all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild,

⁸ the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

⁹ LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"

Let's pray. Dear Lord Almighty, how majestic is your name in all the earth. This day we wish the whole world would recognise your name, would recognise your power and grace and justice and mercy. We admit that we don't always remember how great you are. We don't always live in line with your holiness. We don't always rely upon your power. We don't always listen to your Word. So please forgive us. And place your Holy Spirit within us so that today we might worship you with heart, soul mind and body. We might be renewed in our faith. That we might desire to humble ourselves, take up our cross and follow Jesus each day. Be with us today and especially throughout this service, for we need you today more than ever. And we ask these things in Jesus' name Amen.

Song – Glories of Calvary The Glories of Calvary With Lyrics By Sovereign Grace Music (feat. Norton Hall Band) - YouTube

1. Lord, you're calling me to come
And behold the wondrous cross
To explore the depths of grace
That came to me at such a cost
Where Your boundless love
Conquered my boundless sin
And mercy's arms were opened wide

Chorus: My heart is filled with a thousand songs Proclaiming the glories of Calvary With every breath, Lord how I long To sing of Jesus who died for me Lord, take me deeper Into the glories of Calvary 2. Sinners find eternal joy
In the triumph of Your wounds
By our Saviour's crimson flow
Holy wrath has been removed
And Your saints below
Join with your saints above
Rejoicing in the Risen Lamb

Chorus x2
Bridge: For all eternity we will sing worthy
Our God has set us free
We'll sing the glories of Calvary
Repeat Bridge
Chorus

Bible Reading – 1 John 4:7-21 (NIV)

"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 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. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. 13 This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. 16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is

love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. 17 This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. 21 And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

Announcements

Focus for Month: Worship. Worship is not confined to a weekly gathering but flows from the truth that all of life is lived coram Deo—before the face of God (Romans 12:1). Since God is sovereign over every sphere of life, our thoughts, words, work, relationships, and rest are to be offered in gratitude and obedience as acts of worship. Worship might start on a Sunday but God's plan is that it should it should never end.

New City Catechism: Question 34. Since we are redeemed by grace alone, through Christ alone, must we still do good works and obey God's Word? Yes, because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, also renews us by his Spirit; so that our lives may show love and gratitude to God; so that we may be assured of our faith by the fruits; and so that by our godly behaviour others may be won to Christ. Bible Passage: 1 Peter 2:9-12 "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light."

Next week: Baptism of Emilia Feather. Next week at our AM service, Ben & Rosalie will be making promises to raise their young daughter Emilia in the Christian faith. Please come along and support them as they make their important vows before us.

Recharge Men's Conference. We are looking forward to exploring 'The Church' with our speaker Roger Burgess on Saturday 13th September. This means, reminding ourselves of the community that leads us to "deep gems of joy, peace, and purpose that are unknown in the world." Location: Grace Evangelical Church. 7:30-1pm (this year breakfast will be part of the price not lunch!) Early Bird \$40 (Ends 23/8) Under 25, \$20.

Online Grandparents Conference: 23/8/25 https://ngmlegacy.com.au/2025-conference/

Cost: \$28. See Karen & Ross Logan for more details. Seeks to equip grandparents to grab hold of their potential influence & instil in them a fresh vision in helping them share their love & faith in Christ with their grandchildren so they are able to leave a living faith legacy. Great speakers including Alistair Begg, Elizabeth Mackinlay & Simon Manchester.

Sunday @ 6 Invitation Service – Sunday 31st **August**. Is there someone you know who you would like to hear the gospel? A family member or a friend or work colleague that currently doesn't know Jesus (or is not walking with Jesus)? Then why not invite them along in two weeks' time as we will be inviting all those who were involved in Church soccer to our evening service and it would be a great time to invite your friends and family along as well.

The Living Room. Have you found this podcast yet? Run by Anna Moss, Women's Ministry Worker @ NSW Presbyterian Church. On Tuesday 2nd September 7:30-9pm she will be interviewing Heather Hayes on the topic of how we meaningfully connect with young adults around the topics of faith and life. For more info, go to pcnswwomen.org.au.

Next AM Sermon Series: Godliness Is... The sermon series "Godliness is..." explores how true godliness flows from the gospel, not from human effort. Rooted in grace, empowered by the Spirit, and expressed in every part of life—even in suffering—godliness is the evidence of a heart transformed by Christ. This series calls us to pursue holiness as we look forward to the day we will be with Him and like Him forever.

24.8 Rooted in God's grace Titus 2:11-14, Ephesians 2:8-10
31.8 Empowered by the Spirit Galatians 5:16-25, Romans 8:1-14

7.9 For the whole of life Colossians 3:1-17, 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

14.9 The result of suffering James 1:2-12, 1 Peter 2:18-25,

Pastoral Prayer

Pray for Tunisia (Population 12 million, Christians 23,300). Tunisian Christians face **hostility** from society, and most choose to worship in private. Converts from Islam whose new faith is discovered are considered to have brought **"shame"** on their families. Despite this, the Church in North Africa **is growing**. Pray for converts from Islam to be sheltered from abuse and rejection. Ask God to help Tunisian Christians forbidden from worshipping publicly. Pray that God will guide communities of Christians that can help them grow in faith.

Pray for Compassion. Please pray for children and their families that they may have hope, dignity and restoration. Pray that they may know they are loved, fearfully and wonderfully made, and that they matter. Pray for justice for the world's most vulnerable. Compassion achieve this by serving vulnerable children living in poverty with a community-first approach. They are child-focused, Christ-centred and church-based.

Pray for our leaders (Elders, COM, deacons and staff) as they meet to review our plans for 2025 & consider what we need to do to continue to grow the Church for the rest of the year.

Pray for the health system in Australia. Sovereign Lord, we thank You for the gift of health and for providing skilled doctors, nurses, and carers through Your common grace. We pray that our health system in Australia would be marked by justice, compassion, and wise stewardship, so that all people, especially the vulnerable, receive the care they need. Above all, may our trust be in You as the Great Physician, who heals not only bodies but also the deepest sickness of our sin through Jesus Christ our Lord

Song - How deep the Father's Love for us

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tzQj7XvKFmA

- 1. How deep the Father's love for us
 How vast beyond all measure
 That He should give His only Son
 To make a wretch His treasure
 How great the pain of searing loss
 The Father turns His face away
 As wounds which mar the Chosen One
 Bring many sons to glory
- Behold the man upon a cross
 My sin upon His shoulders
 Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
 Call out among the scoffers
 It was my sin that held Him there

- Until it was accomplished His dying breath has brought me life I know that it is finished
- 3. I will not boast in anything
 No gifts, no power, no wisdom
 But I will boast in Jesus Christ
 His death and resurrection
 Why should I gain from His reward?
 I cannot give an answer
 But this I know with all my heart
 His wounds have paid my ransom

Bible Reading – Ephesians 3:14-21 (NIV)

¹⁴"For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family^[a] in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶ I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. ²⁰ 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, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

Sermon – God is ... Love! (Stephen T)

Sermon video link: https://youtu.be/gPKkCK08ee8?t=26

What is it about music and love songs? In the words of Paul McCartney and Wings "You'd think that people would've had enough of silly loves songs." Yet probably everyone here has a long list of love songs that have been part of the soundtrack to your lives. Songs like "All you need is love" (the Beatles), Can't help falling love (Elvis Presley), Crazy little thing called love (Queen), Addicted to love (Robert Palmer), Love Story (Taylor Swift), We fell in love in a hopeless place (Rihanna) and California Love (2Pac & Dr Dre).

I suppose, in short, we want to know what love is? And where we can find love and how that might enable us to love others more. And so, as Christians we are so thankful that the Bible has so much to say about love. And within the Bible you could say that the apostle Paul is the expert on faith, the apostle Peter is the expert on hope, the apostle James is the expert on actions and the apostle John is the expert on love.

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Which leads us to today's passage, 1 John 4:7-21 a passage that has the word love appearing in it 26 times. But what we are going to find out here is that love is not primarily a feeling, instead it is a person and plan. God is love and God proclaims this love to us, proves this love to us, personally offers this love to us, perfects this love within us and then asks us to practise this love to those around us. That's the power of love, God's love. A love that is

Slide 3

1. Proclaimed (verses 7-8)

"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because **God is love.**"

My kids tell me they know when I am just about to end my sermon because I often bring in the application at the end by saying the word "Friends." Maybe the apostle John was trying to prank his family by beginning this section with the word "Friends". I don't know. But more likely he wants to emphasise the wonderful truth to his dear friends that God is love.

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Now he is not saying love is God, that love defines God, no he is saying that God is love, that God defines love. If you want to know what love is, then you need God to teach you about it. Today we get our models of love from our music, our movies, our family and even unfortunately from pornography. But instead, we should be getting it from God.

For God is love. God is the source and origin of all love. The essence of God is that he chock a block full of love. If you were able to cut God open, he would bleed love. Which means everything God does, he does in a loving way. So, when God creates, he is does it because of love. When he speaks, his words come from a heart of love. When he judges he judges in a loving way. When he saves, he saves because he loves even sinners. For God is love.

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John Piper puts this way "Love is from God the way heat is from fire, or the way light is from the sun. Love belongs to God's nature. It's woven into what he is. Its part of what it means to be God. The sun gives light because it is light. And fire gives heat because it is heat. So, John's point is that in the new birth, this aspect of the divine nature becomes part of who you are."

You see if love comes from God, and Christians have been born again, then what has surrounded them constantly in that birth process is love. So, as a human baby is surrounded by amniotic fluid while in the womb and is covered in it when they enter the world on their own, so those born of God have been surrounded & covered by God's love. They get to know and experience God's love and so love becomes a defining characteristic of their new life.

God is love and as we are connected to the source of love and birthed, surrounded by love, we then demonstrate that we know God and are connected to God by loving like God loves.

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For just as a candle, sheds off light once it has been lit by another candle, or a match. The light of God's love burns within the Christian and gives off a love for others. So, love isn't optional. Its proof of our relationship with the God of love. It's the proclamation that John is making to us. Now that's just words on a page, isn't it? So I wonder is there any proof that God is not just talking the talking while not walking the walk?

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Dr G. Campbell Morgan, a famous British preacher had five sons who all became preachers themselves. One day a visitor to their home asked an obvious question, which one of you is the best preacher? And they all said the same answer almost in unison. "Mother." For Mrs Campbell Morgan might never have preached a formal sermon in her life but the way she loved others should the world that the God she served was full of love.

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2. Love is Proclaimed and Love is Proved (verses 9-10)

9 "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. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."

How do we know that God is love? Because he gave. He gave something precious. More precious that money. More precious than time. More precious than a lending hand. He gave his Son. Actually, he gave his one and only son. The greatest gift of love ever!

Now Whitney Housten sang of the Greatest love of all and by that she meant loving oneself. The idea being that unless you love yourself, you really can't love others. John's logic is polar-opposite from that. John's logic is: unless you have received the gift of God's son Jesus, you can't really love others.

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Now up until this point God had given the world many good gifts. The gift of life itself. The gift of nature. The gift of his word. He had given his people Israel many examples of His generous nature. Why just last term we were in the book of Exodus and saw God's gifts of salvation, his gift of the law and his gift of himself. But here we see God willing to send his son into enemy territory, into a world of sinners to conduct a search and rescue operation. He sent his son to look for us even while we were not looking for him.

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How does Paul put it in Romans 5? ⁸ "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." It was God's plan to send his son into a rebel world. It was God's purposes to redeem & rescue a people to himself. It was God's project to share his love with the unlovely so that they could be transformed and become more like God.

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And how could that possibly happen? Not by coming as a baby at Christmas time. Not by teaching them the word and modelling for them a perfect life. But by sending his son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. You see God's love isn't vague—it's bloody and sacrificial. Sin needed to be paid for. Justice needed to be done. So instead of the rebels paying for their own sin or taking the justice they deserve, God sent his one and only son to take their place.

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In the words of John Stott, "For the essence of sin is man substituting himself for God, while the essence of salvation is God substituting himself for man. Man asserts himself against God and puts himself where only God deserves to be; God sacrifices himself for man and puts himself where only man deserves to be."

You see it wasn't as if we loved God first. That there was a spark of love that God said, that's good enough for me. I can use that. No there was nothing like that. It had nothing to do with us. And everything to do with God and his love. In the words of writer Philip Yancey, "There is nothing we can do to make God love us anymore and there is nothing that we can do to make God love us less." So, we have seen in our passage that God says something to us and that God has done something for us, now we see that God is doing something within us.

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3. Love proclaimed, love proved and **love that is personal**. (verses 11-15) 11 "Dear friends, since God **so loved us**, **we also** ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, **God lives in us** & his love is **made complete in us**."

Do you get it? We are participants in this incredible love story. We are not the audience watching on from a distance; we are getting caught up in the all the action. We are the objects of God's immense, incomparable, incomprehensible love! If Jesus has come to us and died for us then we can experience the meaning of love in its most profound sense.

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But it gets even greater than that. 13 "This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit." We now have inside of us God's Holy Spirit. Part of the Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit now lives within us. And what is the first fruit of the Spirit but love. God is love and now we are inexplicably joined to God through the work of the HS.

Only the Holy Spirit can enlighten our minds and set aflame our hearts with the love of God. And now the believer has the Holy Spirit within them. In fact, they have the whole Trinity on their side. 14" And we have seen and testify that **the Father** has sent **his Son** to be the Savior of the world. 15 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, **God lives in them** and they in God."

Before the creation of the world, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit were in a perfect fellowship of love with each other. But now you and I can be included in the loop. How amazing is that? Not just adopted into the family of God but included in its inner circle! That has got to give us not only a personal experience of love but access to God's own resources full of love. Left on our own we could never love the way that God wants us to love. But God hasn't left us on our own. God resources us and strengthens us and even transforms us to enable us to love our neighbour as he has loved us.

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Quoting John Piper again, "I think we will love each other and those outside with a distinct, supernatural love when we taste the fellowship of the Trinity."

That was the experience of George Matheson. Matheson was only fifteen when he was told that he was losing what little eyesight he had. He immediately enrolled in the University of Glasgow, and graduated at age nineteen. But as he pursued graduate studies in theology for the Christian ministry, he completely lost his sight. His sister assisted him in his studies.

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But his fiancée, unwilling to be married to a blind man, broke their engagement. He never married, and the pain of that rejection never totally left him. When his sister married, he rejoiced with her but became heartbroken once again. Out of this experience he wrote the following words, "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go. I rest my weary soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, That in thine ocean depths it flow. May richer, fuller be."

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4. Love is proclaimed, proved, personal and fourthly perfected. (verses 16-18)

16 "And so, we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. 17 This is how love is **made complete** among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not **made perfect in love**."

In the movie Jerry Maguire, Jerry says to his wife Avery who had previously left him, "I love you. You complete me" It's a lovely thought that if we find the right guy, the right girl, that they will complete us. That will give us what we lack. They will make us the most complete package we can ever be. But its just not true. Its Hollywood spinning another half-truth.

But Gods' love is the love that can complete us, perfect us. John has already said in verse 12, "No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us." Human love doesn't complete us, only God's love can complete us. And how does it complete us? By giving us confidence and by driving away fear.

It gives us confidence because before we were born, God proved his love to us by sending us his son Jesus to die in our place. It gives us confidence that now in the present we are not all on our own but God has shown in love to us by sending us his Spirit to dwell within us. And it gives us confidence for the future because when the day of judgement comes, we will not be condemned but will hear Jesus, "Come with me, good and faithful servant."

And that should give us the confidence to love other, even if they don't love us. It gives us confidence to keep loving, even when we think our love tank is running dry. It gives us confidence to step out in faith and love the unlovely because that is what God did for us. As well as that God's presence drives away fear of failure. Fear of rejection. Fear of judgement. These fears don't need to stop us from loving others because God's love drives away that sort of fear & fills us instead with God's love. Which brings us to full maturity in Christ.

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You see the goal of God's love is to transform all it touches & make us not just recipients of love but givers of love. By connecting us to all the love we need to love others. You see just as an apple grows to full ripeness by being connected with the life-giving sap of the tree. So, the aim of God's love is not just to fill you with God's love, instead it is to make you fruitful, so that love can be picked and enjoyed by those around you.

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Tim Keller tells the story of being in his first pastorate, & meeting up with a teenage girl in his congregation. She was about sixteen at the time, and she was discouraged and becoming depressed. He tried to encourage her, but there was a revelatory moment when she said, "Yes, I know Jesus loves me, he saved me, he's going to take me to heaven – but what good is it when no boy at school will even look at me?"

She said she "knew" all these truths about being a Christian, but they were of no comfort to her. The attention (or the lack of it) of a cute boy at school was far more important to her joy and self-worth than the love of Christ. Of course, Keller says, this was a perfectly normal response for a teenage girl. Nevertheless, it shows us how our hearts work. We would say that she had the opinion that Jesus loved her, but she didn't really know it. Christ's love was an abstract concept while the love of these others she could see was real to her heart.

The point being that what fills our hearts can give us either fear or confidence to love others or to keep loving ourselves. The greatest love in the world is not self-love, that leads to selfishness, it is God's love,

the source of all love, the one who has shown us his love, made personal his love, who is in the process of perfecting his love and will lastly enable you to

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5. Practise his love (verses 19-21).

Just as one domino falls before a string of other dominos can fall. So, the love of God filling our hearts, minds, soul and body enables us and energises us and equips us to love others.

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19 "We love because he first loved us. 20 Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. 21 And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister."

God's love for us moves us to not just to love God back but to love others around us. Which means the motivation of God in loving us is not so that we can pay it back to Him but so we can pay it forward to others. And that paying it forward is not a suggestion or a good idea, it's a command. We must love our brothers and sisters. But what God commands of us, he provides for us in not just his word, and his example but his ongoing presence.

In this way loving our neighbour becomes a test for us; to see if we really have experienced God's love & have been changed by God's love. Because it's easier to love a visible human being than an invisible God. So, if the people around you can't see you loving others, then it will be pretty obvious that you don't love the God who has offered to give his love to you.

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St. Augustine put it this way: "Love alone distinguishes the children of God from those of the devil. They can all sign themselves with the sign of Christ's cross; they can all respond Amen and sing Alleluia; they may all be baptized and come to church; & they may all build churches; but the children of God are distinguished from the children of the devil **only by love**. Those who love are born of God, those who don't are not."

And that means that when we do love this way, we can point a loveless world to a loving God. They don't just hear about a loving God proclaimed or learn about how God's proved his love in sending us Jesus to die for our sins. But instead, they see this love in a personal way, they note how it is been perfected in us and they reflect on how it is practised amongst his people. People should be able to see Christ's love as we do life together as a Church.

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Personally, I think that what has happened to me. As most of you know I was not brought up in the Church but when I was invited along to a fellowship group in my late teens, I saw the love that Christians had for one another. And what's more I experienced the love of God through them as they included a shy, awkward youth in all that they were doing.

A few years later I was working overseas and I went along to a Church in Birmingham, England and was blown away by the love and hospitality shown to me by one family. I went around to their home each week for Bible Study and we ate together as a family and they treated me as a member of their family. That is often the case when we go away from home, you have an instant family of believers who show you God's love and acceptance.

As I have ministered, I have seen God's love up close and personal as I witness Christians caring for one another. Visiting one another in hospital, providing meals when sick, crying and holding one another's hands in grief, forgiving another when they have been hurt by them, helping with repairs around their house, babysitting when others have sick kids, sending someone a gift when they need encouragement, talking to a newcomer when they come to Church, signing up to serve and keep serving those who take for

granted everything that you do for them. That's real love. That's an expression of God's love. That a witness to those who currently don't know about God's love.

But sometimes the Church doesn't work like that, and it drives people away from us and from God. Sometimes that love is shown by a small section of the church and the rest enjoys the spiritual capital of others. But friends they are the ones that are maturing in their faith and those who just receive are still babes in the faith. The challenge from this passage is for us all to reflect, ponder and mediate on God's love for us and to allow that to sink into the very core of our being and then take the step of faith and start using those resources that are now within you to love others, in ways that will support, encourage and challenge them.

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"God is love." That's not a soft sentiment—it's a **sovereign reality**. He **proclaimed** it, **proved** it, made it **personal**, **perfected** it in us, and calls us to **practise** it. The question is will you trust it? Will you live it? Will you share that same kind of love with your brothers and sisters in Christ and even more importantly with the lost, those without Christ?

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In Greek mythology Midas was the guy who turned everything to gold that he touched. Well God has a kind of Midas touch too, but it's not a touch that turns things to gold. It's a touch that transforms our attitudes & turns people into lovers. Today let the love of God touch & transforms you into someone who desires to love God & is compelled to love the unlovable.

Song – May the mind of Christ my Saviour

May the Mind by Emu Music (with Lyrics) - YouTube

- May the mind of Christ, my Saviour, Live in me from day to day, By His love and power controlling All I do and say.
- 2. May the Word of God dwell richly In my heart from hour to hour, So that all may see I triumph Only through His power.
- May the peace of God my Father Rule my life in everything, That I may be calm to comfort Sick and sorrowing.

- 4. May the love of Jesus fill me, As the waters fill the sea; Him exalting, self abasing, This is victory.
- 5. May I run the race before me, Strong and brave to face the foe, Looking only unto Jesus As I onward go.
- 6. May His beauty rest upon me As I seek the lost to win, And may they forget the channel, Seeing only Him.

Benediction "And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." (Ephesians 3:17-19)