



STAYING CONNECTED

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR OUR MCIVOR CHURCH FAMILY

FEBRUARY 11, 2024

WORSHIP – THE LOVE OF GOD

*The love of God is greater far
Than tongue or pen can ever tell
It goes beyond the highest star
And reaches to the lowest hell
The guilty pair bowed down with care
God gave His Son to win
His erring child He reconciled
And pardoned from all sin*

*O love of God how rich and pure
How measureless and strong
It shall forevermore endure
The saints and angels song*

*When years of time shall pass away
And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall
When those who here refuse to pray
On rocks and hills and mountains call
God's love so sure shall still endure
All measureless and strong
Redeeming grace to Adam's race
The saints and angels song*

*O love of God how rich and pure
How measureless and strong
It shall forevermore endure
The saints and angels song*

*Could we with ink the ocean fill
And were the skies of parchment made
Were every stalk on earth a quill
And everyone a scribe by trade
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry
Nor could the scroll contain the whole
Though stretched from sky to sky*

*O love of God how rich and pure
How measureless and strong
It shall forevermore endure
The saints and angels song*

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION – YOUR LOVE

inspired by 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

~ posted on The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Your love is patient;
we give you thanks for all those
who have been patient with us
and have taught and cared for us;
and we pray for the patience to love others
as you have loved us.

Your love is kind;
give us the courage to be kind to others
and to serve those with patience
who are so often unkind, rude,
difficult to love, or our enemies.
They are your children and our sisters and brothers
and they were made in your image.

Your love is not pompous;
give us insight to speak the truth in love
and for the sake of your kingdom
and not out of a need to appear clever or right
and in all our relationships
give us the wisdom to listen far more than we speak.

Your love does not seek its own interests;
we thank you and pray for those who serve the poor
and those in need,
who give tirelessly of themselves
and who have much to do
and little time for themselves.

Your love is not quick-tempered;
we pray for those who are angry
and for the violent and their victims;
for children who fear, elders who are abused,
and people trapped in relationships that injure and harm.

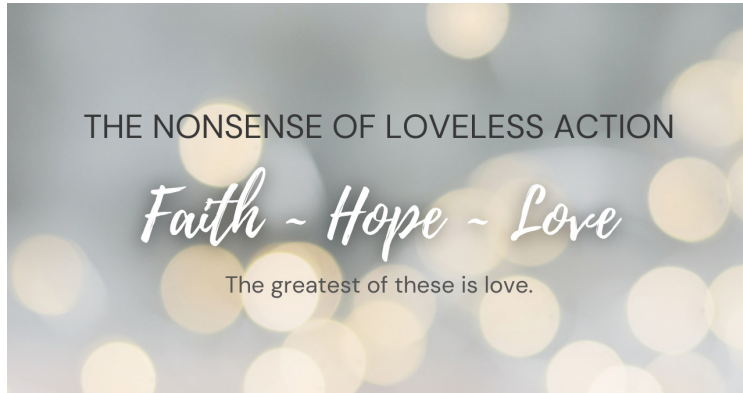
Your love bears all things;
we remember before you those with heavy burdens,
many cares, much stress, and too little comfort and help.
Open our eyes to those around us and their needs
and give us the wisdom to offer help
without any prying or sense of superiority.

STAYING CONNECTED • A WEEKLY FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Your love never fails;
even death does not trespass on the breadth
and depth of your love.

We thank you for those we have loved in this life
and who now dwell in the peace and joy of your presence
and let your comfort settle on those who are bereaved
or who are lonely this day.

In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen



SERMON – SCOTT KOOP

1 Corinthians 13 is known as the love chapter and it is a spectacular example of what true godly love really is. It's something that we as followers of Jesus ought to aspire to. Most of the time, however, we focus on verses 4 through 7 and we leave out verses 1 through 3 and verses 8 through 13.

In the first section of this chapter, we are given some rationale for why love is vital to our lives. The author states that no matter our abilities or how much good we might do, if it is not done from a place of love that it will count for nothing. The interesting thing is that speaking all the languages of earth and of angels, having all knowledge and a faith that can move mountains. Giving up everything, even one's own life, is a description of what Jesus did and what He does. And Jesus did all of it solely from a place of love.

Of course, verses 4 through 7 is the most well known section of this chapter and is the description of what love is and what it looks like. This is the model that we need to strive for. This is the model that Christ displayed perfectly.

In the last section—verses 8 through 13—we have a beautiful picture of what is to come. Two ideas that I wish to highlight here are 1. That love will last forever, and 2. That perfection is coming. Another word that can be used in place of perfection here is completeness.

When Jesus comes again He will bring His kingdom into being and all that is imperfect and incomplete will be done away with. And love is what will ultimately bring this eternal kingdom to fruition. Love will last forever because heaven, paradise, living in the presence of the triune God is forever. It will never end.

Of all the things that will last forever—faith, hope and love—may we be those who exemplify well the greatest of them all. May we live out the example of God's love to the world around us. Amen.

FAMILY NEWS



Our condolences to the family of John Pankratz, who passed away peacefully February 5. The funeral was held February 10 at Mclvor Church.

Watch the service:

<https://youtube.com/live/ufdAL29BNzw?feature=share>

Read the obituary: <https://memorials.friendsfs.ca/johann-pankratz/5375246/>

SPRING FINANCE MEETING – FEBRUARY 25

Our annual Spring Finance Meeting will be held after the worship service, followed by lunch.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, 7pm – Youth Group and Kids Club
Thursday, 9am and 5pm – Harvest Manitoba Food Bank
February 18, 11:30am – Family Fun Day Outreach
February 20, 9:30am – 55+ Walk & Talk “Frauds and Scams”
February 24, 3-4:40pm – Inter-Church Prayer Vigil for Peace and Justice in Ukraine, Mclvor Church
February 25, 11:15am – Spring Finance Meeting & Lunch
March 25-28 – Mclvor Spring Break Day Camp

WAYS TO GIVE

We accept donations by cash or cheque, as well as e-transfers to mcivor@mcivorchurch.com or via credit card on www.mcivorchurch.com. To arrange a gift via Direct Deposit, please contact the office at 204.339.1691.

**** Church office hours are Tuesday to Friday 9am to 4:30pm. ****