



## FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 7, 2021

**AS WE GATHER:** Love. Marriage. As amazing as these concepts are, **Love and Marriage** have been some of the most fought over words in America in the last 20 years. If love means whatever I feel it should mean, shouldn't I be able to love whomever I want? If marriage is **ONLY** an expression of my understanding of love, shouldn't I be able to marry whomever I want and leave the marriage when I don't feel the love anymore? Join us these next two weeks as we explore that Love and Marriage have Biblical definitions and that if they are exercised in grace, they can be some of the most powerful tools to witness the love of Jesus to others. God designed marriage to be a reflection of His love for the church and Christ's love is something we are called to share with others no matter if we are married or not!

### PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

### WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN

#848

*"Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service"*

- 1 Lord, whose love through humble service  
Bore the weight of human need,  
Who upon the cross, forsaken,  
Offered mercy's perfect deed,  
We, Your servants, bring the worship  
Not of voice alone, but heart,  
Consecrating to Your purpose  
Ev'ry gift that You impart.
- 2 Still Your children wander homeless;  
Still the hungry cry for bread;  
Still the captives long for freedom;  
Still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As, O Lord, Your deep compassion  
Healed the sick and freed the soul,  
Use the love Your Spirit kindles  
Still to save and make us whole.

- 3       As we worship, grant us vision,  
          Till Your love's revealing light  
          In its height and depth and greatness,  
          Dawns upon our quickened sight,  
          Making known the needs and burdens  
          Your compassion bids us bear,  
          Stirring us to tireless striving,  
          Your abundant life to share.
- 4       Called by worship to Your service,  
          Forth in Your dear name we go,  
          To the child, the youth, the aged,  
          Love in living deeds to show;  
          Hope and health, goodwill and comfort,  
          Counsel, aid, and peace we give,  
          That Your servants, Lord, in freedom  
          May Your mercy know and live.

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#### INVOCATION

**Pastor:**       In the name of the Father and of the Son and of  
                  the Holy Spirit.  
**People:**       **Amen.**

#### OPENING SENTENCES

*Psalm 36*

**Pastor:**       Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the  
                  heavens,  
**People:**       **Your faithfulness to the clouds.**

**Pastor:**       Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;  
**People:**       **Your judgments are like the great deep;**

**Pastor:**       How precious is Your steadfast love, O God!  
**People:**       **The children of mankind take refuge in the  
                  shadow of Your wings.**

**Pastor:**       For with You is the fountain of life;  
**People:**       **In Your light do we see light.**

**Pastor:**       Oh, continue Your steadfast love to those  
                  who know You,  
**People:**       **And Your righteousness to the upright of heart!**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Lord of mercy and might, with heavy hearts we  
confess our sin to You. Our failure to obey Your  
commandments,

People: **we confess to You, Lord.**

Pastor: Our giving attention to so many other gods,

People: **we confess to You, Lord.**

Pastor: Our giving in to the temptation to hate our  
neighbor,

People: **we confess to You, Lord.**

Pastor: Our impure thoughts and actions,

People: **we confess to You, Lord.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die  
for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins.  
As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by  
His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins  
in the name of the Father and of the Son and of  
the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

## SONG OF PRAISE

*“Glory to God”*



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



**G** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



### SALUTATION

Pastor        The Lord be with you.  
 People:      And also with you.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor:        O Lord, You showed Your love for humanity  
                      through Jesus, Your beloved Son.

People:        Empower us by Your Spirit to love You with our  
                      whole heart, and to love our neighbors as  
                      ourselves,

Pastor:        so that the light of Your love may so shine before  
                      others through us that they glorify You;

People:        through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who  
                      lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
                      one God, now and forever. Amen.

### FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 13:1-7

*If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup>And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.*

*<sup>4</sup>Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice at wrongdoing,*

*but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup>Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE "A Clanging Cymbal" Miss Heidi

EPISTLE

1 John 4:7-12

*Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.*

*<sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please stand) "Alleluia"

All: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:12-17

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

*"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. <sup>17</sup>These things I command you, so that you will love one another.*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

**SERMON**

**“Love and Marriage: Love”**

Pastor Seth Flick

**HYMN OF THE DAY (Please stand)**

#543

*“What Wondrous Love Is This”*

- 1     What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!  
      What wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
      What wondrous love is this  
      That caused the Lord of bliss  
      To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
      To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!
- 2     When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,  
      When I was sinking down, sinking down,  
      When I was sinking down  
      Beneath God’s righteous frown,  
      Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,  
      Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.
- 3     To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;  
      To God and to the Lamb I will sing;  
      To God and to the Lamb,  
      Who is the great I AM,  
      While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,  
      While millions join the theme, I will sing.
- 4     And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on;  
      And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on.  
      And when from death I’m free,  
      I’ll sing His love for me,  
      And through eternity I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on,  
      And through eternity I’ll sing on.

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

**All:       I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of  
            heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who  
was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin  
Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,  
died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The  
third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended  
into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the  
Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge  
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian  
Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of  
sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life  
everlasting. Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND TIME OF THANKSGIVING**

Politics and Christianity at DR. How do I even navigate these political changes as a person who follows Jesus? How can I be a citizen of Christ's kingdom of grace AND the kingdom of this world? We know that these are questions that you are asking, so we invite you to participate in person for a live streamed online zoom presentation called "GOD AT WORK - A TWO-KINGDOM EXERCISE IN THE AMERICAN CONTEXT: Concerns, Trends, Victories, Engagements." with Dr. Selz of the LCRL (Lutheran Center for Religious Liberties - Washington DC) Dr. Selz is a former Lutheran hour speaker. He will meet with us via a Live streamed Zoom meeting here at Divine Redeemer's sanctuary on February 10 at 6:30 PM. Further instructions will be provided via an email blasts soon if you do not wish to participate in person.

Sunday, February 14 at 11:45 AM, in the gym, will be the Voters' Call Meeting to extend a Divine Call to Rev. Dr. Nathan Meador to serve as Executive Pastor. His bio and information are available at the rear of the church and gym.

Divine Redeemer Lutheran School has begun online applications and re-enrollments for the 2021-2022 School year. Contact the School's Admissions Office for more information or to arrange an IN-PERSON tour.

A special IN-PERSON Early Childhood Open House, for parents interested DR's Infant, Toddler, 2K- 5K programs, is being offered Tuesday, February 23rd at 6:30 PM. You must Register for this event by calling 367-3664.

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** Embraced by the love of God for us in Jesus, let us bring our prayers to God, trusting in His promise to deliver us in the midst of trouble.

God, whose love is patient and kind, empower Your Church throughout the world to show forth the Gospel everywhere with patience and kindness. Let the love You have shown us so embrace our lives that the world may notice and turn to You. God of love,  
**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** God, whose love is not envious or boastful, bless the leaders of nations, our president and congress, our governors, and local leaders. Move all leaders to cease envy and boastfulness, injustice and corruption. Guide our leaders to be honorable people who do not neglect the poor and who strive toward the flourishing of all human beings. Bless those who serve in our armed forces. Bring peace between us and our enemies, and let Your

peace in Christ reign over this broken world. God of love,  
**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** God, whose love is not arrogant or rude, come to the aid of all who are in need. As Jesus humbly entered this world as a vulnerable baby, help all of us to humbly enter the lives of those who are sick, facing surgery, or dying to offer comfort and hope. Bring healing according to Your will and peace to those whose suffering endures. God of love,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** God, whose love is not irritable or resentful, let Your joy, forgiveness, and peace flow freely in and among both the families of this congregation and all families. Empower parents and grandparents to love their children and children to love their parents. Watch over all who travel, and comfort families who are separated by many miles. Guide families, that their homes be places where Your love is demonstrated to strangers as well as to friends. God of love,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** God, whose love abides into all eternity through our Lord Jesus, You deliver Your people even from the grip of death. Comfort those who mourn, and use us to express Your abiding love to them. We thank You for the life and witness of those who, having abided in Your love in this life, have now died and abide in Your eternal love. Bring us one day to be with them; and until that day give us grace to endure life's difficulties, while also abiding in Your love. God of love,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** In addition to these prayers that we have spoken, we know that You, O Lord, know the thoughts of our hearts, and hear also those prayers that come to You in sighs too deep for words. All of our prayer we entrust to Your abiding love in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**People:** Amen.

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**All:** 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.

#### BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.  
People: Amen.

#### CLOSING HYMN #922      *“Go, My Children with My Blessing”*

Go, My children, with My blessing,  
Never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you;  
You are My own.  
In My love's baptismal river  
I have made you Mine forever.  
Go, My children, with My blessing—  
You are My own.

Go, My children, sins forgiven,  
At peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you,  
What I can cure.  
Here you heard My dear Son's story;  
Here you touched Him, saw His glory.  
Go, My children, sins forgiven,  
At peace and pure.

Go, My children, fed and nourished,  
Closer to Me;  
Grow in love and love by serving,  
Joyful and free.  
Here My Spirit's power filled you;  
Here His tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, My children, fed and nourished,  
Joyful and free.

I the Lord will bless and keep you  
And give you peace;  
I the Lord will smile upon you  
And give you peace:  
I the Lord will be your Father,  
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.

Go, My children; I will keep you  
And give you peace.

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**Lay Readers:**

8:00AM: Jan Prox

10:30AM:

**Acolytes:**

8:00AM: Brody Newton & Aidan Koper

10:30AM: Brayden Surges & Emily Corteen

**Sound:**

8:00AM: Todd Radke

10:30AM: Amelia Sitzberger

**Elders:**

8:00AM: David Georgson

10:30AM: Brad Baker