

## LOVING AS THE LORD LOVES US

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers,  
nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else  
in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-39

### PRESENCE OF GOD

**Side 1:** You will show me the path of life;  
In Your presence is fullness of joy;  
At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

**Side 2:** Do not cast me away from Your presence,  
and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.

**Side 1:** Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,  
at the presence of the God of Jacob.

**Side 2:** Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving;  
Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms and holy songs.

**All:** Serve the Lord with gladness;  
Come before His presence with singing.

### HYMN: I HAVE LOVED YOU

**Refrain:** I have loved you with an everlasting love,  
I have called you and you are Mine. (2 x)

1. Seek the face of the Lord and long for Him:  
He will bring you His light and His peace. Refrain

2. Seek the face of the Lord and long for Him:  
He will bring you His joy and His hope. Refrain

3. Seek the face of the Lord and long for Him:  
He will bring you His care and His love. Refrain



### FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 15:12-15

This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down their life for their friends. You are My friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. The Word of the Lord!

### RESPONSE: 1 CORINTHIANS 13: 1-8

**Side 1:** If I speak in human and angelic tongues but do not have love,  
I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal.

**Side 2:** And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all  
knowledge;  
if I have all faith so as to move mountains  
but do not have love, I am nothing.

**Side 1 :** If I give away everything I own,  
and if I hand my body over so that I may boast  
but do not have love, I gain nothing.

**Side 2:** Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous,  
love is not pompous, it is not inflated. It is not jealous.

**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: 1 JOHN 4:9-18**

**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. 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. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us.**

**The Word of the Lord!**

**HYMN**

**Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found.  
Brought here together by Christ's love, by love we are thus bound.  
With grateful joy and holy fear, God's charity we learn.  
Let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in return.  
Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ, God's holy Son.  
As members of each body joined, in Him we are made one.  
Let strife among us be unknown. Let all contentions cease.  
Be God's the glory that we seek. Be His our only peace.**

**BENEDICTION**

**+ May the blessing of God be upon us  
In the name of the Father, Creator of all  
May His love and His mercy be with us  
Through this day and forevermore. Amen.**

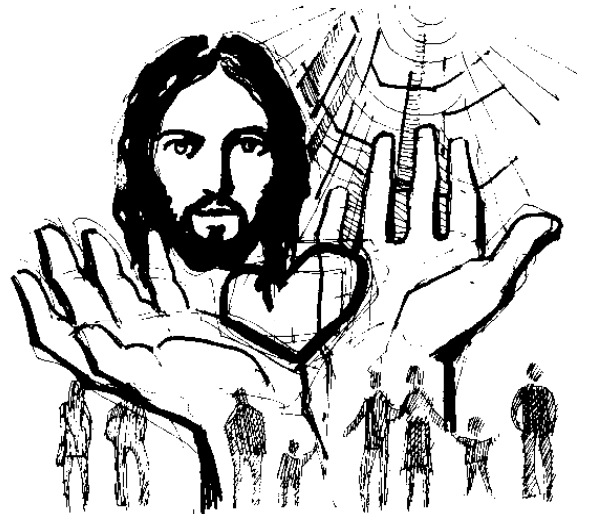
**+ May the blessing of God be upon us  
In the name of the Son, Him Who died for us all  
May His grace and His peace be within us  
through this day and forevermore. Amen.**

**+ May the blessing of God be upon us  
in the name of the Spirit Who lives in us all  
May His strength and His friendship be with us  
through this day and forevermore. Amen.**

**HOW DO I LOVE THEE? (SONNET 43)**

**Elizabeth Barrett Browning**

**How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.  
I love thee to the depth and breadth and height  
My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight  
For the ends of being and ideal grace.  
I love thee to the level of every day's  
Most quiet need, by sun and candle-light.  
I love thee freely, as men strive for right.  
I love thee purely, as they turn from praise.  
I love thee with the passion put to use  
In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.  
I love thee with a love I seemed to lose  
With my lost saints. I love thee with the breath,  
Smiles, tears, of all my life; and, if God choose,  
I shall but love thee better after death.**



*May the spirit and love of Jesus  
live in our hearts.  
Forever!*