

Contemporary Service

9:30 am

Welcome and Call to Worship

Praise and Prayer

God So Loved

Prayer of Confession

God Really Loves Us

Passing the Peace

Kids Time

Announcements

(Offerings are received weekly via mail, Realm, and online giving at <https://villagechurchnorthbrook.org/give/>. Those attending live worship can leave their donations in the offering plates in the Narthex.)

Scripture Reading Galatians 5:22-26 & I Corinthians 13:1-7

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord;
All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Love

The Fruitful Life: Cultivating the Character of Christ

Song of Response

Reckless Love

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Closing Song

Stand in Your Love

Blessing

Questions for Discussion

Opening Discussion:

- How would you define love?
- Describe a memorable way that someone showed you Christ-like love.

Read: 1 Corinthians 13:4-13

Digging Deeper:

1. How would you summarize verses 4-7 in ten words or less? What is the essence of love as described in this passage?
2. Why does love never fail as opposed to other gifts of the Spirit like prophecy? (vs. 8-10)
3. Verses 11-12 describe our knowledge of love like growing in maturity into adulthood. What is the difference of our knowledge of God and his love now, compared with the final day when we see the Lord face to face?
4. Why is love greater than faith and hope? Will all three last into eternity or not?

Application for Life

- Look at verses 4-7 again. What are the top three areas in your life where you need to grow in love? Which qualities described here are the most challenging for you?

Prayer Concerns & Closing Prayer

- Pray for the Lord to grow your heart of love. Pray that you will be more loving and Christlike to the people around you – both those you know and those you don't know.



Sign up for email list



Sign up for our online community



Program Staff

Spencer Lundgaard, Senior Pastor
Greg Buell, Associate Pastor for Discipleship & Caring Ministries
Ed Burton, Minister of Family Ministries
Luke Stoner, Minister of Contemporary Worship/Sr. High Youth
Jesse Bower, Director of Music (Traditional)

The Village Church

1300 Shermer Road, Northbrook, Illinois 60062-4577
villagechurchnorthbrook.org
847-272-0900



1st Sunday after Easter
April 16, 2023

Traditional Service

11:00 am

Prelude **He's Risen, He's Risen**
(Composer: Thomas W. Jefferson)

Welcome

Announcements

Call to Worship
Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made.
People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Opening Hymn **Come Down, O Love Divine** **#234**

Responsive Reading **Psalm 1**
Oh, the joys of those who do not
follow the advice of the wicked,
or stand around with sinners,
or join in with mockers.
**But they delight in the law of the Lord,
meditating on it day and night.**
They are like trees planted along the riverbank,
bearing fruit each season.
**Their lives never wither,
and they prosper in all they do.**
But not the wicked!
They are like worthless chaff, scattered by the wind.
They will be condemned at the time of judgment.
**Sinners will have no place among the godly.
For the Lord watches over the path of the godly,
but the path of the wicked leads to destruction.**

Prayer of Confession (Unison)
We confess, O God, that we often fail to live the life of faith in Christ because we seek to live it in our own strength. We know that your Spirit is given to release and empower us to live in the world, but we behave as if it's all up to us. We strive, work, and put forth our best efforts only to discover we are getting nowhere fast as a disciple. Forgive us, God, for neglecting to come to you in prayer and trust in your presence in our daily lives. Enable us to open ourselves to the power of the Holy Spirit, who enables us to live from the freedom we have in You. *(People silently offer their personal confessions to God.)* In Jesus Name we pray, Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness
Leader: Friends, believe the Good News:
People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Response **Glory Be to the Father** **#961**
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be
World without end. Amen, Amen.

Passing the Peace

Minute for Ministry **Paul and Carol Suzuki**

Anthem **The King of Love My Shepherd Is**
(Composer: John Ness Beck)

Scripture Reading **Galatians 5:22-26 & I Corinthians 13:1-7**
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord;
All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon **Love**
The Fruitful Life: Cultivating the Character of Christ

Musical Reflection **This Joyful Eastertide**
(Dutch tune, lyrics — George Ratcliffe Woodward & Charles Wood)

Doxology **Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him, above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer
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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn **Let All Creation's Wonders** **#555**

Benediction

Postlude **Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain**
(Composer: Gerhard Krapf)

Worship Participants

Sermon	Rev. Spencer Lundgaard
Worship Leader	Luke Stoner (9:30)
Liturgist	Luke Stoner (11:00)
Scripture Reader	Sherry Maloney (9:30)
	Luke Stoner (11:00)
Prayers of the People	Elaine Holmquist (9:30)
	Luke Stoner (11:00)
Minute for Ministry & Kids Time	Paul & Carol Suzuki
Director of Music (Traditional)	Jesse Bower (11:00)
Organist	Sharon Peterson (11:00)
Anthem	Village Church Choir

All Music done by permission CCLI license #1582552