

Words to Ponder: "When I speak of love, I am not speaking of some sentimental and weak response, I am speaking of that force which is ... the supreme unifying principle of life". **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Gathering Music **"Open the Eyes of My Heart"** **Music Ministry**

Words of Welcome | +Passing of the Peace **Elder Dennis Dozier**

Call to Worship (based on 1 Corinthians 13:4-8) **Elder Dennis Dozier**

Love is patient.

Love is kind.

Love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.

Love does not insist on its own way.

Love is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing.

Love rejoices in the truth.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends.

Let us worship the Lord who loves us without boundaries.

Opening Hymn **"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"** **PH #260**

Call to Confession (based on Psalm 71:1-6) **Elder Dennis Dozier**

Unison Prayer of Confession

Great God, we confess that we doubt your capacity to work through us. We hold on to fears that we are unworthy to speak your words, so we stay silent even as your Spirit pulls at our tongues. We struggle to fathom the wholeness of your claim over us, so we ignore the light of your love as it emerges in the dark places of our lives. We seek refuge in temporary towers and are numb to the grasp of cruelty.

Forgive us. Help us to trust you, to lean upon you, to speak your word to a weary world and accept the completeness of your loving claim on our lives. Amen.

Words of Assurance (based on 1 Corinthians 13:7) **Elder Dennis Dozier**

Hear the good news: Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. We know this love through Jesus Christ, and by this love, we know that we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

God has poured out love upon us, and we have received forgiveness for our sins.
We can now live in peace!
May mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance.

Children’s Message	“Remembering Chaplains”	Rev. Ann Hayman
Anthem	“The Lord is My Light”	Music Ministry
Prayer for Illumination		Elder Dennis Dozier
Scripture	Hosea 2:14-23	Elder Dennis Dozier
Sermon	“Love for the Loveless”	Rev. Dr. Charity Charoo Ngaruiya

Words of Faith (excerpt from The Second Helvetic Confession, edited for inclusion)
[We believe] faith [is] efficacious and active through love. It also quiets the conscience and opens a free access to God, so that we may draw near to [God] with confidence and may obtain from [God] what is useful and necessary. The same [faith] keeps us in the service we owe to God and our neighbor, strengthens our patience in adversity, fashions and makes a true confession, and in a word, brings forth good fruit of all kinds, and good works.

The Lord’s Supper **Rev. Dr. Ngaruiya | Elder Dozier**
Communion Hymn/Song: “The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power”

Words of Invitation

May the God of love be with you.
And also with you.
Do not be afraid to offer your hearts to God.
We do so, knowing they will be filled with God’s love.
Always and forever, let us praise our God.
Here, now, every day, everywhere, we will offer our songs to the One who abides . . .

Prayer of Thanksgiving

we join our voices in singing your praises:
Holy, holy, holy are you, God of abiding faith.
All creation sings of its hope in you.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who came as your love embodied.
Hosanna in the highest! . . .

Words of Institution

(Please eat the bread as it is passed and hold the cup that all may drink together.)

Prayer following Communion

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

The Offering

Elder Dennis Dozier

Call to Giving (based on 1 Corinthians 13:7-8)

For we know only in part, and we prophecy only in part, but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. All that is, all that was, and all there will be belongs to God. Let us now return to God in part what is God's in whole.

Offertory

"What Shall I Render?"

Music Ministry

+Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise Him all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

Prayer of Dedication (based on Jeremiah 1:4-10)

Announcements

Elder Dennis Dozier

Closing Hymn

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

PH #376

Call to Order of the Annual Meeting

Rev. Ann Hayman

Charge and Benediction

Love God,

love yourself,

Love your neighbor.

Do not be afraid, for God is with you.

The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

"God Be With You"

Michael Turner, Piano