

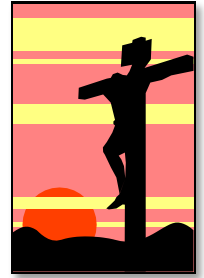
Southern Maine Church of Christ

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*We love Him,
because He
first loved us.*

- 1 John 4:19 -

Jesus Loves You!

In Romans chapter 8, the apostle Paul asks a very pertinent and powerful question, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" (Romans 8:35). He goes on to point out that nothing "shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:39). Another relevant and probing question would be, "Do we believe it?"

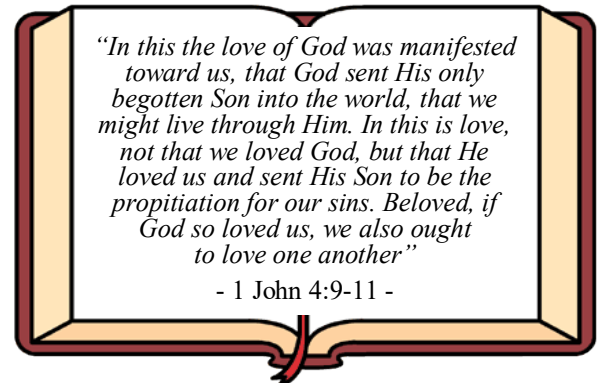


We have every reason to fully embrace this truth and take it to heart. God, through the inspired New Testament writers, reveals and affirms the tremendous love Christ has for you and me. "For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:7-8). Jesus himself said, "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends" (John 15:13).

That is exactly what Jesus did for you and me. He willingly died in our place to pay the penalty for our sins (Rom 8:1-4; 1 Tim 2:5-6; 1 Pet 2:24). "But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy, He saved us" (Titus 3:4-5). The apostle John summarizes this way, "In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins" (1 John 4:9-10).

This is how God showed His love for us. How do we show our love for Him? John answers in the next verse: "Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another" (1 John 4:11). May we humbly open our hearts and freely offer our lives to Jesus our Lord so that we may fully experience the depth and richness of His wonderful love! And may His love be the primary motivation in all that we do (2 Cor 5:14-15).

— Terry Schmidt ✍



"In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we 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"

- 1 John 4:9-11 -

Points to Ponder:

Sin adds to your trouble,
subtracts from your energy,
divides your interests, and
multiplies your difficulties!



"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

- Acts 16:30 -

Hear the Gospel - John 6:44-45; Rom 10:14,17

Believe [trust in] God - John 3:16; 8:24; Ac 16:31
Heb 11:6

Repent of sins - Luke 13:1-5; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30

Confess Christ - Mt 10:32-33; Ac 8:36-37;
Rom 10:8-10

Be baptized - Mk 16:16; Ac 2:38; 8:36; 22:16;
1 Pet 3:21

Be faithful unto death - Mt 7:21; Rev 2:10

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"Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

- Acts 4:12 -

Prayer Requests:

“Pray for one another”

- James 5:16 -

- Billie Jo (Pat Miller's daughter) - recently suffered a nervous breakdown
- Corona Pandemic - its effect and overall impact on our lives, the nation and the world
- Diane Cote - kidney disease; various health concerns
- Randy Cote - family problems
- Filomena Derecho (Cathy's mother in the Philippines) - numerous health issues
- Reyderick Derecho (Cathy's nephew) - permanently disabled and in need of prayer
- Bill Ferrigno (friend of Terry S) - recently diagnosed with lymphatic cancer
- Sandy Gagnon - health concerns
- Glenda's aunts in California:
 - Beverly* - pacemaker & hip replacement
 - Mary Lou* - kidney failure; now on dialysis
 - Sandra* - recent shoulder surgery
- Erik Grabowski - painful tennis elbow
- Janice Grabowski - large growth on left side of her neck causing pain; also lost her job due to the covid-19 virus
- Connie Henderson - recently diagnosed with a fast-growing ovarian cancer; scheduled to undergo 3 rounds of chemotherapy (had second treatment on April 22); chemo is working; white & red blood cells are in a normal range with cancer cells decreasing; this will most likely be followed by major surgery to physically remove the remaining cancer
- Terry Kennedy - healing well from recent right knee replacement surgery
- Leah (Glenda's daughter) - ovarian cancer
- Debbie McGarey (mother-in-law of Terry & Betty's daughter, Becky) - stage 4 throat cancer; also recently fell and broke her hip
- Pat Miller - being treated for diverticulitis
- George Nick - family issues & concerns
- Ernie Perry - dealing with COPD issues
- Norman Roy - back home now, but in severe pain; pain meds being administered intravenously; prayers needed for him and his family as his health declines
- Wayne Sampson - recovering from surgery on right shoulder; severe bursitis hip pain; also experiencing ongoing anxiety attacks
- Please pray for our nation - (1 Timothy 2:1-3)
- Please pray that we might find a suitable and affordable permanent *meeting place*

"Pray without ceasing." — 1 Thessalonians 5:17

News & Notes:

- ⇒ Brother Paul Bullock will be at the building on Sunday morning at 9:30 for Bible study and 10:30 for those who may desire to worship and partake of the Lord's Supper.
- ⇒ Those worshipping at home can view this week's sermon **"Jesus Loves Me, This I Know!"** by going to our web page at: www.southernmainecofc.com/
Click on "Sermons." There are also other sermons available for you to view.
- ⇒ Sacred Selections, our song book, can be viewed at this website: <https://hymnary.org/hymnal/SS4C1956>
- ⇒ For the contribution, you can "lay by in store" (1 Cor 16:2) each week that which you have "purposed in your heart" to give (2 Cor 9:7) and keep it till we resume meeting again. Or, you could mail it to our church treasurer, Wayne Sampson.