

Sunday, February 22, 2026

Welcome *Pastor Jeff will give announcements and welcome*

****Call to Worship** (*Liturgist parts are indicated in BOLD and ***)

****Good Morning, I am Bob Brundage, and will be serving as Worship Leader today. Would you please stand as you are comfortable and able to join me in the responsive Call to Worship?**

****Leader: Come to worship God whose love was revealed in Jesus. Let all the ends of the earth turn to our God.**

People: We will worship the Almighty and sing praises. We will proclaim good news to others.

****Leader: Beloved, we are called to love as God loves us. We are to love one another as sisters and brothers.**

People: Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. We seek to let God's love be perfected in us.

****Leader: Remember that you have been baptized. God claims you and has high expectations of you.**

People: Christ is the vine; we are the branches. We will bear fruit when we abide in the vine.

****Will you join us in our opening song, "I Love to Tell the Story", hymn #156, and the words will be on the screen.**

Children's Time

Choir Anthem

Community Notes - Doug Lamborne -Raise the Roof Campaign

Prayers, the Lord's Prayer and Offering of Gifts

(Pastor Jeff will first do the prayers, Liturgist will read Invitation & pray)

****Invitation: God loves us so much that Jesus was sent to be the atoning sacrifice for our sin. The balm of love was offered for our healing so we might be reconciled to God and one another. What will we offer in thanksgiving for so great a gift?**

****Will you pray with me? We give, gracious God, because we are grateful. Your love has sustained us through many trials and temptations. We are thankful for those who have guided our attempts to understand the Scriptures. Your loving judgment has provided the pruning our lives require in order to bear fruit. We give in order to extend to others the blessings we have received and to continue the ministry we need as we seek to abide together in your love. Amen.**

****Scripture Reading 1 John 4:7-21 NRSV**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so 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 atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, 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. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I

love God,” and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

This is the word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!

Preparation Chorus - All “I Choose Love” - on screen

Message “*In the Midst of Pain, We Choose Love*” Pastor Jeff Williams

Baptism & Reception of New Members

Closing Song “*Stand Up, Bless the Lord*” Hymn #662

Blessing for the Week

Choral Benediction