



**Welcome to Worship**  
**Sunday, February 14, 2020 — 8:00 a.m.**  
*Making Disciples Who Make a Difference  
in Seward and Beyond*



**Words of Welcome and Announcements:**

*See announcement flyer.*



**Prelude**

**Dylan Teut**

**Peace of Christ Blessing**

**Call to Worship**

L: Come in from the cold of winter to the warmth of worship.

**P: We come that our hearts may be warmed by God's word.**

L: Come in from the weariness of a difficult season to the reassurance of worship.

**P: We come that our hope may be renewed.**

L: Come in from the loneliness of a pandemic to the virtual and in person gathering of this congregation.

**P: We come to feel a new connection with one another and with God.**

L: Come! Worship! Be renewed.

I love you, Lord and I lift my voice  
to worship you, O my soul rejoice.  
Take joy, my King, in what you hear,  
may it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

### **Our Common Prayer**

God of Infinite Love, teach us to love extravagantly. Remind us that love is experienced in many ways. Enable us to be more loving each and every day. Amen and amen.

### **Children's Time**

**Pastor Jo Ellen Axthelm**

### **Scripture Lesson - Ruth 1:15-18**

<sup>15</sup> So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." <sup>16</sup> But Ruth said,

"Do not press me to leave you  
or to turn back from following you!

Where you go, I will go;  
where you lodge, I will lodge;  
your people shall be my people,  
and your God my God.

<sup>17</sup> Where you die, I will die—  
there will I be buried.

May the Lord do thus and so to me,  
and more as well,  
if even death parts me from you!"

<sup>18</sup> When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

### **I Corinthians 13** *(from The Message, selected verses)*

Love never gives up.  
Love cares more for others than for self.  
Love doesn't want what it doesn't have.  
Love doesn't strut,  
Doesn't have a swelled head,  
Doesn't force itself on others,  
Isn't always "me first,"  
Doesn't fly off the handle,  
Doesn't keep score of the sins of others,  
Doesn't revel when others grovel,

Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth,  
Puts up with anything,  
Trusts God always,  
Always looks for the best,  
Never looks back,  
But keeps going to the end.

Love never dies. Inspired speech will be over some day; praying in tongues will end; understanding will reach its limit. We know only a portion of the truth, and what we say about God is always incomplete. ... we have three things to do to lead us toward that consummation: Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love.

### Hymn

### The Gift of Love

UMH 408

<sup>1</sup> Though I may speak with bravest fire  
and have the gift to all inspire,  
and have not love, my words are vain,  
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

<sup>2</sup> Though I may give all I possess,  
and striving so my love profess,  
but not be given by love within,  
the profit soon turns strangely thin.

<sup>3</sup> Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,  
our spirits long to be made whole.  
Let inward love guide every deed;  
by this we worship, and are freed.

### Message

### Love Stories

Pastor Mary Kay Totty

**Prayer: Type in your joys/concerns or text to 402-810-8900.**

### Music for Prayer

### Come and Fill Our Hearts

TFWS 2157

Come and fill our hearts with your Love,  
you alone, O God, are holy.  
Come and fill our hearts with your Love,  
Alleluia!

### Pastoral Prayer

### Lord's Prayer

### Offering

We give generously of our time, talents, gifts, service, and witness.

*To make a gift in support of our continued ministry during the global pandemic,  
please place your offering in the box near the front door, or visit [sewardumc.org](http://sewardumc.org)  
and click on the 'donate' button.*

**Offertory**

**Dylan Teut**

**Prayer of Dedication**

Receive O God the offerings we bring with glad and generous hearts. Grant that they will be used for the ministries of this congregation as we seek to make disciples who make a difference in Seward and beyond. For all that is entrusted to us, we give thanks. Amen.

**Hymn**

Help Us Accept Each Other

**UMH 560**

<sup>1</sup> Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;  
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.  
Be present, Lord, among us, and bring us to believe  
we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.

<sup>2</sup> Teach, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life  
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.  
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,  
to love them as we find them, or as they may become.

<sup>3</sup> Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved  
in living situations to do the truth in love;  
to practice your acceptance, until we know by heart  
the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.

<sup>4</sup> Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need,  
who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread,  
we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on;  
renews us with your Spirit; Lord, free us, make us one!

**Benediction**

**Pastor Mary Kay Totty**

**Postlude**

**Dylan Teut**

***The People of God Go Forth to Serve***

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