

Cornerstone

Follow Jesus with Joy and Wonder The Message of Christmas is the Love of Jesus

Pastor Mark Lehmann December 21, 2025

Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love. God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us. 1 John 4:7-12 NLT

The Love That Came at the Incarnation of Jesus

In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. He existed in the beginning with God. God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it. John 1:1-5 NLT

The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He came into the very world He created, but the world didn't recognize him. He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God. So the Word became human and made His home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness.

John 1:9-14 NLT

"For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life."

John 3:16 NLT

The Love He Gives

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."
John 10:10 ESV

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God...

1 John 3:1 ESV

"I have loved you even as the father has loved me. Remain in my love" John 15:9 NLT

"We love because He first loved us."

1 John 4:19 NIV

Whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. 1 John 4:16 ESV

The Love That is to Come When Jesus Returns

Dear friends, we are already God's children, but he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is.

1 John 3:2 NLT

"Behold, I am coming soon..."
Revelation 22:12 ESV

and from Jesus Christ. He is the faithful witness to these things, the first to rise from the dead, and the ruler of all the kings of the world. All glory to him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by shedding his blood for us. He has made us a Kingdom of priests for God his Father. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.

Revelation 1:5-6 NLT

I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever." And the one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new!" And then he said to me, "Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true." And he also said, "It is finished! I am the Alpha and the Omega—the Beginning and the End. To all who are thirsty I will give freely from the springs of the water of life. All who are victorious will inherit all these blessings, and I will be their God, and they will be my children.

Revelation 21:3-7 NLT

Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.

1 John 3:18 NLT

He who is the faithful witness to all these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon!" Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!
Revelation 22:20 NLT

