

**PREWORSHIP MUSIC**

**PRELUDE**

**GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor: Good morning, friends. Welcome to a celebration of God's love.

*All: We are glad to be here this morning!*

Pastor: We will hear the good news of God.

*All: In this world in which the news is mostly bad,  
we look forward to hearing God's good news for us.*

Pastor: Prepare your spirits.

Quiet your souls.

*All: Let us ready our hearts and minds to worship God.  
Amen.*

**HYMN**

*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

**Hymnal, #193**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*All: Almighty God, we confess that we have taken your commandments and turned them into rules. We have criticized others who have fallen short and selfishly proclaimed ourselves righteous. We have failed to understand the spirit of the commandments and the Way that Jesus taught us to live by loving God and loving our neighbors. Forgive us for turning your law into burdens for others and ourselves, instead of a Way to love and finding freedom in you. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.*

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Pastor: You are loved!  
Love is the Way.  
We love because God first loved us.  
If you say you love God, you love and serve others!  
Know that in God's love there is forgiveness,  
healing, and reconciliation.  
Healed and free to begin again,  
give yourself to God by loving and serving others.

*All: Amen.*

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**SPECIAL TIME WITH CHILDREN & YOUTH**

**HYMN**

*Jesu. Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

**Bulletin, Page 3**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** – Exodus 19 and 20 (Overview)

**GOSPEL READING** – Matthew 22:34-40

**SERMON**

**Rev. Laura C. Baker**

**PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All:** *Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*Jacob's Ladder*

JAM Bell Choir

## OFFERING INVITATION (Based on Matthew 22)

Liturgist: Jesus once said: "Give to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and give to God the things that are God's." All we have and all we are, has come from God, so let us worship God with our offerings and dedicate it all in prayer, together.

## OFFERING PRAYER

**All:** *God our Creator, you have satisfied our hunger for love by giving us your Son Jesus Christ. Following his example, let us send no one away empty exclude no one, classify no one, build no walls around ourselves or others. Let our happiness not be complete as long as our brothers and sisters suffer. Help us to take all the risks of love, for it is not so much our love we want to give but yours, which became visible in Jesus Christ our Lord. With what you see before us, God, we demonstrate our deepest love. Receive our gifts – our very best. May they be the blessing to others that they have been for us. Amen.*

## HYMN

*They Will Know We are Christians by Our Love*

Bulletin, Page 4

## COMMISSION & BLESSING (Based on Exodus 20 and Matthew 22)

Pastor: Go to celebrate the God who is our home forever!

**All:** *God's love goes with us!*

Pastor: Go to follow Christ's example in loving God, self, and neighbor.

**All:** *God's love goes with us!*

Pastor: Go with the Holy Spirit to change the world with love.

**All:** *God's love goes with us!*

Pastor: The Lord, our God, is the one and only Lord.

Therefore, go into the world  
and love the Lord your God  
with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind,  
and love others as you love yourself.

**All:** *We go in peace to love and serve God and our neighbors.  
Amen.*

## POSTLUDE

# 273 Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

*Refrain (Unison)*

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love,

show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends,      si - lent - ly wash - es their  
 2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor,      var - ied in col - or and  
 3 These are the ones we should serve,      these are the ones we should  
 4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees,      si - lent - ly wash - ing their

feet,      Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.  
 race,      neigh-bors are near us and far a - way.  
 love,      all these are neigh-bors to us and you.  
 feet,      this is the way we should live with you.

WORDS: Tom Colvin (1925-2000)  
 MUSIC: Ghana folk song; adapt. Tom Colvin (1925-2000); arr. Charles H. Webb (1933- )  
 Words © 1969, 1997 Hope Publishing Company  
 Music © 1969, 1989 Hope Publishing Company

CHEREONI  
 Irregular

# 2223 They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love



1. We are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord,
2. We will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand,
3. We will work with each oth-er, we will work side by side,
4. All praise to the Fa-ther, from whom all things come,



we are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord,  
we will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand,  
we will work with each oth-er, we will work side by side,  
and all praise to Christ Je-sus, God's on-ly Son,



and we pray that all u-ni-ty may one day be re-stored:  
and to-geth-er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:  
and we'll guard hu-man dig-ni-ty and save hu-man pride:  
and all praise to the Spir-it, who makes us one:

## *Refrain*



And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our



love; yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love. \_\_\_\_\_

WORDS: Peter Scholtes (John 13:34-35; Eph. 4:4-6)  
MUSIC: Peter Scholtes

ST. BRENDAN'S  
76.76.86 with Refrain

© 1966 F.E.L. Publications, assigned 1991 to The Lorenz Corp.