



TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH

PASTOR MICHAEL A. REID, SR.

FEBRUARY 11, 2024

HYMN 441	Love Lifted Me
WELCOME	
SONG	O How He Loves You and Me
PRAYER	
HYMN 479	Jesus Loves Me
HYMN 490	When Love Shines In
HYMN 492	Jesus Loves Even Me
OFFERING	
SCRIPTURE READING	Luke 6:20-31
HYMN 61	O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus
MESSAGE	"Reward"

WELCOME

Guests and friends, we are honored that you chose to come and worship with us today! We hope you will stop by the welcome table in the lobby after the morning service to receive a gift as well as some literature about our church. Let us know if there is some way we can be a blessing to you!

SPORTSMEN'S DINNER

Our Sportsmen's Dinner is just a week from this Saturday, February 24 from 4-6:30pm! All men and boys (K5 & up) are invited to attend. Activities will open at 4pm and a special wild game dinner will be served at 5pm. We plan to enjoy fellowship and hear from a speaker! Please sign up in the lobby. Contact Courtney Howard at (540) 514-9288 for questions related to food. Contact Pastor Reid or the church office with other questions.

UPDATES & EVENTS

- TODAY** **EVENING SERVICE @ 6pm**
- WED, FEB 14** **SERMON SERIES: "What Is Marriage?"**
Pastor Reid will begin a month-long sermon series on Wednesday evenings covering the topics of marriage and family. He has also promised a special surprise to those in attendance this Wednesday, Valentine's Day!
- SUN, FEB 18** **SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADER'S MEETING**
All Sunday School teachers and helpers should plan to attend this meeting. Dinner will be provided. Spouses are welcome to attend!
- WED, FEB 21** **ADULT 7 SILVER & GOLD SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS – 2pm**
The Silver & Gold Sunday School class is invited to IHop in Central Park for a Valentine's Lunch. Questions? Contact Tom Phillips.
- SAT, FEB 24** **SPORTMEN'S DINNER – 4-6:30pm**
- SUN, FEB 25** **OPEN GYM VOLLEYBALL**
- SAT, MAR 2** **GROW VISITATION OUTREACH – 10:30am-12pm**
- SUN, MAR 10** **TIME CHANGE: SPRING FORWARD**
MEN'S OPEN GYM BASKETBALL
- WED, MAR 20** **TEEN ACTIVITY: LADIES NIGHT – 7pm**
- SUN, MAR 24** **OPEN GYM SOCCER**
- WED, MAR 27** **REMEMBRANCE SERVICE**
- SUN, MAR 31** **EASTER SUNDAY**
- SAT, APR 6** **GROW VISITATION OUTREACH – 10:30am-12pm**
- SAT, APR 13** **SHARPER IRON YOUTH RALLY @ TIMBER RIDGE BIBLE CAMP**

FREE STUFF

For one day only, everything in Lost & Found is free for the taking! If you see anything that you could use, please take it! Items remaining after today will be cleared out. Lost & Found is located on the kitchen side of the old gym.

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

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BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

- 11 Sidney & Althea
- Keats
- 13 Eric
- 14 Joe & Lydia
- 16 Carolyn

TRUE LOVE...

...what is it, exactly? That's an easy question, right? So easy that Cinderella sang a song about it! "So this is love? So this is what makes life divine!" Or as another character famously put it, "Sonny, true love is the greatest thing in the world, except for a nice MLT – mutton, lettuce and tomato sandwich..." Our culture has lots of ideas about love! Some are humorous, but others are distorted and sinful since they are generated by a world that rejects God and His Son. Thankfully, we can know the truth about love from God Himself! In fact, His Word summarized the whole concept in just three words: "God is love." (1 John 4:16) What a comforting truth, that God not only created love and understands it, but He embodies it!

God has showed His love for us in some remarkable ways, most notably by sending His only Son to pay the debt for our sin. Instead of making us pay for our own sin in a place of eternal suffering, God offers an eternal home in heaven to all who will trust in Him alone. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16) Now *that's* true love! God's Word also tells us that His love is without limits. It's not like human love, limited by our own sin and weakness. We often grow weary of loving others as we should. We are tempted to stop loving when the cost is too great to our own comfort or energy. We sometimes want to quit when we are giving to others without receiving anything in return. But God's love is not like that—it is perfect and pure, and it never runs out. In Ephesians 3 we are told that we can be "filled with all the fulness of God" if we can just get a firm grip on God's love to us: "...that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God."

How does God want us to respond to His great love? First, He wants us to accept His gift forgiveness and receive Jesus Christ as our Savior! Then He enables us to learn to love *like Him*—in a way that sacrifices our own needs and desires for the good of others. Living this way is a task beyond our human ability, but God easily strengthens us: "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? ...Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." (Romans 8:31, 37)

