



FOR *God* SO LOVED THE WORLD

What Love Is Not
1 Corinthians 13:1-3
Alf Halvorson preaching

8:30 AM Service

Sunday, November 8, 2020

Alf Halvorson preaching

[1 Corinthians 13:1-3](#)

Welcome & Call to Worship

Dave Steane

Songs of Praise

Open the Eyes of My Heart
Ancient of Days

Shane and Shane
Shane and Shane

***Prayer of Confession & Assurance**

Beth Case

Moment of Prayer

Dave Steane

Song of Preparation

Because of Your Love

Phil Wickham

Message

God So Loved the World: What Love Is Not

Alf Halvorson

Song of Response

There Was Jesus

Zack Williams

Opportunity to Give & Benediction

Alf Halvorson



Sunday Worship Playlist

[Click here to listen.](#)

Remember Our Mission Partners on the Front Lines of Ministry

Each week, we pray for three of **MDPC's** local and global mission partners. During these difficult days, our partners truly covet your prayers! Visit partners.mdpc.org to find this week's (three) prayer recipients.



FOR *God* SO LOVED THE WORLD

What Love Is Not
1 Corinthians 13:1-3
Alf Halvorson preaching

9:45 AM Service

Alf Halvorson preaching

Sunday, November 8, 2020

[1 Corinthians 13:1-3](#)

Welcome & Call to Worship

Meliza Gómez

Song of Praise

Your Love Awakens Me

Phil Wickham

Third Grade Bibles

Rachel Poysky and Lyndsey Dottavio

Bible Recipients: Jacob Lane Alexander, Dillon Bowman, Elliott Cook, Vivian Debenport, Madeline Dillard, Gwyneth Isolde Galimberti, Austin James McKey, Nathan David Moore, Charlotte Morgan, Lila James Muecke, Taylor Schick, Luke Alexander Schultz, James Stuart Schwieder, Clark Lancaster Slye, Carter Smith, Owen Harrison Tackett, Cash Wilshusen

***Moment of Confession & Assurance**

Anthony Lane

Songs of Response

Tremble

Hank Bently

How Great Is Your Love

Phil Wickham

Message

God So Loved the World: What Love Is Not

Alf Halvorson

Song of Response

There Was Jesus

Zack Williams

Moment of Prayer

Rachel Poysky

Opportunity to Give & Benediction

Alf Halvorson



Sunday Worship Playlist

[Click here to listen.](#)

Remember Our Mission Partners on the Front Lines of Ministry

Each week, we pray for three of **MDPC's** local and global mission partners. During these difficult days, our partners truly covet your prayers! Visit partners.mdpc.org to find this week's (three) prayer recipients.



FOR *God* SO LOVED THE
WORLD

What Love Is Not
1 Corinthians 13:1-3
Alf Halvorson preaching

11:15 AM Service

Sunday, November 8, 2020

Alf Halvorson preaching

[1 Corinthians 13:1-3](#)

Prelude	<i>Concerto in G Minor</i>	G.F. Handel (1685-1759)
Welcome & Call to Worship		Dave Steane
*Hymn of Praise	<i>Lift High the Cross</i>	CRUCIFER
*Prayer of Confession and Assurance		Beth Case
*Affirmation of Faith	The Apostles' Creed	
Third Grade Bibles	Rachel Poysky and Lyndsey Dottavio	
	Bible Recipients: Johnny Harrison Brown, Elisabeth Abigail Burger, Luke Moerer, Emma Cristina Perez, Giovanna Reyna	
Anthem	<i>Greater Love Hath No Man Than This</i>	John Ireland (1879-1962)
Pastoral Prayer		Dave Steane
Anthem of Preparation	<i>The King of Love My Shepherd Is</i>	Ryan Murphy (b.1971)
Message	<i>God So Loved the World: What Love Is Not</i>	Alf Halvorson
Hymn of Response	<i>Though I May Speak</i>	O WYLY WYLY
Opportunity to Give & Benediction		Alf Halvorson
Postlude	<i>The New Commonwealth</i>	R. Vaughan Williams (1873-1958)

Remember Our Mission Partners on the Front Lines of Ministry

Each week, we pray for three of **MDPC's** local and global mission partners. During these difficult days, our partners truly covet your prayers! Visit partners.mdpc.org to find this week's (three) prayer recipients.

Sunday, November 8, 2020

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

To see more events at **MDPC**, visit events.mdpc.org.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE as of November 1, 2020

2020 Annual Budget	\$12,300,000
Income to Date	\$8,474,209
Needed to Meet Budget	\$3,825,791



Bless Friday 2020 is here! All projects this year are at-home (with a couple opportunities to gather safely to make them), so no registration is necessary - you can get started anytime! See how many fun ways we have to bless someone this year at blessfriday.mdpc.org.



Consider the highs and lows of this past year. How wonderful is it to know that, as a member of the MDPC family, *your* name has been lifted in prayer each day by your assigned Partner in Prayer? Be part of this quiet, meeting-free, self-led ministry. Sign up at pip.mdpc.org.



From caring for a loved one with dementia to grief support and more, **MDPC** Caring Ministries and its partners continue to offer support, even if it has to be "virtual." To learn more, visit caring.mdpc.org.



Children's Ministries Sunday School is moving to YouTube! We will have Sunday School for Preschool and Elementary Kids on our YouTube channel from 10:45-11:15 AM for our Preschool and Elementary Kids. [Click here](#) to learn more.



Even in these difficult times, our MDPC Mission Partners are still hard at work providing needed services to their clients and sharing the love of Jesus. To hear some of their stories, visit stories.mdpc.org.



Nourish a family and lift their spirits by providing groceries for a homemade Thanksgiving meal! Hundreds of area families screened by SBISD will receive a bag of groceries, fresh produce, and a turkey. Learn how to help at meal.mdpc.org.



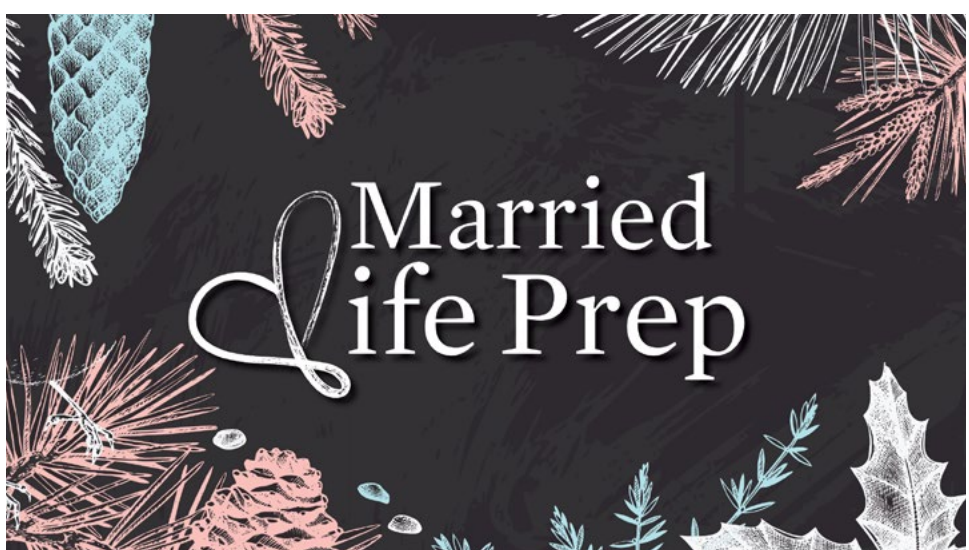
Kids Meals' Service Project is back on at **MDPC**! New measures will be in place to protect participants, including asking volunteers sign up so we can plan accordingly. Learn more and register for November 11 at kidsmeals.mdpc.org.



September's Marriage Staycay was such a success, it's being offered again November 7 for those who missed it. Improve your married relationship in just two hours on Saturday morning from the comfort of your own home - for *free*. Sign up today at staycay.mdpc.org!



FPU's focus on behavior change is a different view of personal finance. Most folks know what to do with money, but not how to do it. Millions have followed Dave Ramsey's plan out of debt and into a life of saving and giving. You can, too! Learn more at fpu.mdpc.org.



Research shows certain marriage prep programs to be particularly effective at preventing divorce, lowering the risk by as much as 75%. [Married Life Prep](#) is approved by Twogether in Texas, and program graduates can have their Texas marriage license fee waived! A new 4-week class starts January 10.



There is a great need for volunteers in areas across the U.S. ravaged by natural disasters. Following the recent hurricanes, our neighbors to the east especially need helping hands. To learn what you can do, go to action.mdpc.org and scroll down to the Samaritan's Purse listing.



This is the first in our second Fall sermon series leading us through Advent and to Christmas Eve. In late May/early June of this year, when I was working on the sermon schedule for the next 12 months, I thought we might need reminders on how God is love and that we are called to love not only after a divisive election season, but also as a basis distinctive of being a Christ-follower.

Shortly before He was arrested, Jesus said to His disciples, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you have love one for another” (John 13:34-35). In other words, the one main difference between the behavior of non-Christians and Christians was to be *agape* love. Christians were/are to be noticeably more loving. What does that mean? What does that look like? Possibly the supreme words ever penned (prose or poetry) on love were written by Paul in 1 Corinthians 13. And they were not written (with the Holy Spirit’s inspiration) just for weddings or married couples, but for disciples trying to follow Christ both in the church and out in the world.

1. If you were to describe fake love or sham love, what would it look like to you? What would an example of true or genuine love be for you?
2. Read [1 Corinthians 13:1-14:1a](#). For Paul, what “things” end or cease? And what qualities abide or endure or never end (are eternal)? Which is the greatest quality? What does it mean to you that some things “pass away,” but others endure?
3. In [1 Corinthians 13:1-3](#), which is our focus for today, Paul describes qualities that often are lauded in our world. What are the qualities? Is Paul saying they are bad in and of themselves? Why, under certain circumstances, are they dangerous or inadequate alone? Give negative examples of these qualities detached from agape love.
4. According to Paul, why is agape love so critical? Why does our motivation matter? Why might the attitude of our heart matter?
5. Read [1 John 4:7-21](#). How does this text help you understand “who God is” and how you and I might live out 1 Cor. 13:1-3?
6. Where specifically might God be prompting you to pursue love, strive for love, run after love, exhibit love, share love, practice love, risk love this week?