

**Aveleigh Fellowship of Presbyterians**  
**Valentine's Day Weekend, February 10, 2019**  
**Series; Season of Inspiration**

**Sermon: LOVE THAT LASTS**

*Texts, 1 Corinthians 13:4-13 p. 1232 & Judges 16:115-16 p. 272*

Leader: The generous love of God abounds.

People: We celebrate and give thanks for God's infinite love.

Leader: The unending grace of God surrounds us.

People: With humble joy, we give thanks for the astounding gift of God's grace.

Leader: The joy of being a child of God encompasses us.

People: With gratitude for a God who knows us by name, we give our thanks.

Leader: The steadfast love of God is always present and always ours.

All: Let us celebrate the overwhelming love of God. Come, let us worship and sing our praise!

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

LOVING God, Teach us today what it means to love -- not a love that we have conjured up in our minds, or a love that we have seen on movie screens, but real love. Challenge us in the ways we have chosen not to love. Move us toward genuine patience, kindness and humility. Let us be moved to love especially when it is inconvenient and difficult. Teach us today what it means to love one another as you have loved us. AMEN.

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*Texts, 1 Corinthians 13:4-13 p. 1232 & Judges 16:115-16 p. 272*

**INTRO:** GOD: *"I have loved you with an everlasting love."* Jeremiah 31:3b (NIV)

#### **4 CHOICES THAT MAKE LOVE LAST**

### **1. LASTING LOVE EXTENDS GRACE!**

*"Love never stops being patient"* 1 Corinthians 13:7a (GW)

*"... puts up with anything"* 1 Corinthians 13:7a (Mes)

*"... patiently accepts all things"* 1 Corinthians 13:7a (NCV)

*"... is always ready to make allowances"* 1 Corinthians 13:7a (NJB)

- **WHEN MY LOVED ONE'S FAULTS IRRITATE ME.**

*"Be humble and gentle by being patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love."* Ephesians 4:2

- **WHEN MY LOVED ONE'S WORDS OR ACTIONS HURT ME.**

*"Love forgets mistakes. Nagging about them parts the best of friends."* Proverbs 17:9 (LB)

*"... Love forgives all offenses."* Proverbs 10:12b (TEV)

- **WHEN MY LOVED ONE SINS.**

*"Let your love for one another be intense, because love covers over a multitude of sins."*

1 Peter 4:8 (NAB)

### **2. LASTING LOVE EXPRESSES FAITH**

*"Love never stops hoping"* 1 Corinthians 13:7c (GW)

(Delilah) *"How can you say, 'I love you,' when you don't trust me?"* Judges 16:15a (NCV)

**A LOVE THAT LASTS,** *"Jesus could not do many mighty works there because of THEIR lack of Faith."* Mark 6:5-6

*"Let us be always seeking the ways that lead to peace and the ways in which we can support each other."* Romans 14:19 (NJB)

**WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU CAN'T TRUST A SPOUSE? YOU TRUST GOD***Trust God all the time. Tell him all your problems, because God is your protection!*"Ps.62:8 (NCV)

### **3. LASTING LOVE EXPECTS THE BEST**

*"Love never stops hoping"* 1 Cor. 13:7c (GW) *". . . always expects the best"*1 Cor.13:7c (LB)

*"If you love someone, you will be loyal to him no matter what the cost. You will always believe in him, always expect the best of him, and always stand your ground in defending him."* 1 Corinthians 13:7 (LB)

*"Encourage each other and build each other up."* 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NLT)

### **4. LASTING LOVE ENDURES THE WORST**

*"Love never gives up"* 1 Corinthians 13:7d (GW)

*". . . endures through every circumstance."* 1 Corinthians 13:7d (NLT)

*". . . always perseveres"* 1 Corinthians 13:7d (NIV)

*". . . never looks back, but keeps going to the end."* 1 Corinthians 13:7d (Mes)

*"When desperate people give up on God Almighty, their friends, at least, should stick with them!"* Job 6:14 (Mes)

**PRAYER:** *Lord Good and Loving God grant me love that lasts forever. Amen.*

## ***FOUR FOR THE ROAD:***

- 1. Who are your lover ones?**
- 2. Who shows love for you and how?**
- 3. How do you show love to others?**
- 4. How could you share a love that lasts forever?**