



Love In Action

(As the candles are being lit)

Perhaps there is no better example of love in action than Jesus Christ, God's one and only Son, born of a virgin, conceived through the power of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:18). He is God incarnate, walking among us, come to hold us, come to look into our eyes, come to hold our trembling hands and to lift our weary heads. "Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14). God is *with* us. And God is *for* us. "For God *so loved the world* that he gave his one and only Son, that *whoever* believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). God's gracious gift offered to each and every one of us in the person of Jesus Christ. This is God's love in action.

Love in action can surprise us. Wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a humble manger, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, the promised Messiah who would take away the sins of the world.

Love in action is extravagant. Miraculously transforming water to wine. Restoring sight to the blind. Causing the lame to walk, and even the dead to rise.

Love is forever. We have an eternal Father and a forever family through Christ. "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!" (1 John 3:1).

Love will rule and reign. "Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:9-11). May we respond to His extravagant love today through confessing Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, turning away from sin, and living for Him.