

LOVE IS MY ONLY LAW

INTRO:

One day they asked him - Jesus tell,
Of all commandments which is the greatest?
And this was the answer that he gave to them.
Listen, for the law of God is here:

CHORUS:

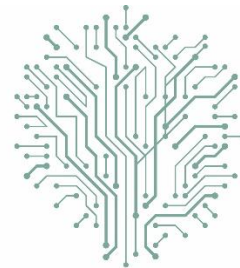
With all your heart, with all your mind
With all your strength to love,
To love the Lord your God,
To love your neighbour as yourself.
With all your heart, with all your mind
With all your strength to love,
To love your neighbour as yourself
And love the Lord your God.

1. This is my only law - hear what I say.
Only remember this: Love is the way.
Love is my only law. Love is the way. CHORUS

2. When Crosses come to you, darken the day
Only remember this: Love is the way.
Love is my only law. Love is the way. CHORUS.

3. This is my only law - hear what I say.
Only remember this: Love is the way.
Love is my only law. Love is the way.

Words & music by Peter Kearney
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SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Matthew 22:34-46
Love and Humility

Acknowledgment

As we gather, we acknowledge the (name of First nations people) who have cared for this land since time immemorial. We pay our respects to elders' past, present and emerging.

Call to Worship

God of Absolute Compassion, you have loved us with all of your heart and your soul, your strength and your mindfulness. Christ, you have loved us as yourself. Fill us with your love, that we may love you by loving our neighbours. Alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, and transform us by your grace. Alleluia!

Responses & Gathering Prayer

God of love and mercy, we love because you first loved us. Open our hearts to your love as we listen for your word. May the light of your love fill us, warm us, re-shape us, and empower us to love, in the name Jesus and the Spirit of Christ. (a moments silence)
God of love, help us to see ourselves with the eyes of love, to see all that is in us that is loving, and all that is not loving. By the grace that we know in Christ, continue to call us into relationship with you. In Jesus name we pray. Amen

Song

[Love is my only Law](https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/93-love-is-my-only-law) by Peter Kearney
<https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/93-love-is-my-only-law>

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

You are invited to turn to those around you and offer them a word of greeting and peace.

The Word around the Bush

Matthew 22:34-46

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’” ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’” ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

⁴¹Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴²“What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet”’?” ⁴⁵If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

The Message

From your Scattered Community Minister or another leader within your gathering.

Questions for conversation

In what ways do you love God?

In what ways do you encounter God's love?

In what ways do you love others?

How does your Christian community show God's love?

Silence

In this time allow yourselves the space to be silent before God. Sit comfortably, letting go of any distractions.

Prayers for Others

Ever present God, as we encounter your words and actions through Jesus may we know that we are invited to participate in your loving action for the world, to help restore creation, to be ministers of reconciliation and bearers of your hope. May we be open to your Spirit's leading, to move in your life.
(pause)

For those who are shut out and shunned by the injustices they experience each day as they are judged by gender, race, class and religion. **May we take up our cross and walk with the marginalised.**
(pause)

For the planet and all living things that fight for survival against the insatiable plunder of human excess. **May we seek sustainable ways of living and caring for your creation.**
(pause)

We know you are with those who are experiencing difficult days in our communities. **May we care for others.**
(pause)

In this time of silence, we bring our prayers. **May we always encounter your love, mercy and compassion.**
(pause)

May we journey the way of authenticity.
In Christ, Amen.

Song for Reflection

Quiet Place: The Many

<https://themanymusic.bandcamp.com/track/quiet-place-in-this-quiet-place>

Closing Responses & Blessing

Go from here, journey with the One who walks with you and calls you to a deeper truth.

Go with open hearts and minds, knowing the Spirit of God is with you, the breath of God upon you.

And may you be voices of wisdom, your actions standing for justice, peace, grace and welcome.
In the name of Jesus the Christ.

Bless us and the people we meet along the way
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen**