

ACTS OF LOVE

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Sermon Series for April 2024 - "Acts of Love" - Redeemer Lutheran Church

Overview

Once the disciples of Jesus had seen the resurrected Lord, they knew their work was not completed, but that it had only just begun. Many of their actions are recorded in the book of Acts, and in a 4-week sermon series, we will discover how their acts of love for their neighbors transformed the world in their day. Throughout the series, we will learn together how we too can live out lives of faith in "Acts of Love" and service toward our neighbors today as well.

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April 7 - Week 1 - Acts of Love - Sharing - Acts 4:32-35

This week, we observe a spirit of generosity and an attitude of selflessness among Jesus' disciples. As they shared their stories with one another, and everyone who would listen about the resurrected Lord Jesus, the Lord provided for them through each others' generosity. This week, we ponder how we might share with our neighbors in need as we rejoice in the one who has been more than generous towards us.

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April 14 - Week 2 - Acts of Love - Forgiving - Acts 3:11-21

This week, we find people reacting strongly to a healing performed by Peter and John. People are not able to comprehend the great power and strength of these disciples. However, Peter points the people, and us, toward an even greater healing - the forgiveness of sins through Christ. Today, we ponder the most powerful healing there is - forgiveness of sins through the word and sacraments!

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April 21 - Week 3 - Acts of Love - Suffering/Confessing - Acts 4:1-12

This week, we remain with Peter and John as they are placed in jail and then on trial before the Sanhedrin to give account of what they had done. In the face of opposition and potential threats to their lives and livelihoods, they double down on their confession of Christ, his crucifixion by the Jews and his resurrection from the dead, refusing to be silenced. Today, we see that the faithful confession of Christ and Him crucified is yet one more Act of Love, even in the face of opposition from our culture.

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April 28 - Week 4 - Acts of Love - Teaching - Acts 8:26-40

This week, we venture away from the 12 disciples of Jesus, and toward Philip the evangelist, who is driven by the Spirit to speak to an Ethiopian eunuch. Here, we observe the essential teaching of Christ in the early church, to those who are eager to learn and accept it. Today, we learn of the importance of learning and growing in our faith, so that we can boldly teach and proclaim the good news to those who, like the Ethiopian eunuch, desire to learn and know of Christ.