

VALENTINE'S DAY

WORSHIP SERVICE IDEAS



Don't forget!

Make sure you put a note in your church newsletter or bulletin to remind your church of this special service. Are there any kids or young adults good at designing a flyer or note?

And keep it simple!



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Kids naturally have questions about love, what it means, what it looks like, how to express and receive it. Valentine's day is a fantastic opportunity to start a conversation with your kids about true love and what it really means. Try to get intergenerational, build authentic relationships and make a few noteworthy memories together as a family or as a church.

BELOW ARE SOME IDEAS WHICH YOU CAN INCORPORATE INTO A SPECIAL VALENTINE'S DAY SERVICE AT YOUR CHURCH. ALSO DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT OUR OTHER RESOURCES AT CHILDREN.ADVENTISTCHURCH.COM

HISTORY OF VALENTINE'S DAY

The history of Valentine's day and the story of its patron Saint is somewhat of a mystery. It is thought that this holiday's origins are in the ancient Roman festival of Lupercalia, a fertility celebration commemorated annually on February 15. The Roman Catholic Church changed this to the February 14 around 496.

There are three main Christian legends about St. Valentine:

- He was a priest who continued to perform marriages after the Roman Emperor outlawed marriage.
- He was killed trying to rescue Christians imprisoned for their faith.
- He fell in love with a jailor's daughter while he was in prison for his faith.

PRAYER

Invite a family with children or a couple to say a prayer about God's Love.

For example...

"Heavenly Father, we invite You to make Yourself at home in our hearts. Send our roots deep into the soil of Your marvelous love.

Grant us the power to understand its scope—its width, length, height, and depth. Allow us the privilege of experiencing and recognizing that love every day. And Lord, as You teach us more about Your love for us, please fulfill the promise that accompanies a deeper understanding of this gift—fill us with the fullness of life and power that comes from You alone. In Jesus name, amen."

OFFERING

Organise the children to collect the offering together. While the offering is being collected show pictures of people showing love to others on a screen and have the musicians/piano play a song about love.

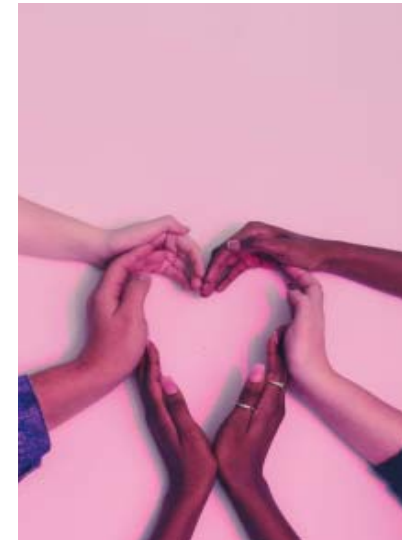
INTERVIEW

Before the Valentine's service ask couples in your church if they would agree to be interviewed up the front. For example pick the oldest, middle and youngest couple of your church congregation and ask them some questions about themselves.

Suggested questions.

- When did you first meet?
- What attracted you to each other?
- What is the nicest thing you have done for each other recently?
- How does God's love strengthen your relationship?

Alternatively invite some children up and ask them what love means and how they show love to others.



HYMNS AND OTHER WORSHIP SONGS ABOUT LOVE

1. How Deep the Father's Love for Us - Stuart Townend
2. I Love You Lord - Laurie Klein
3. What Wondrous Love Is This - C. Michael Hawn
4. Deep in Love with You - Michael W. Smith
5. And Can It Be (Amazing Love) - Charles Wesley
6. Unfailing Love - Chris Tomlin
7. Power of your love - Hillsong
8. His Kind of Love - Group 1 Crew

GIFTS FOR ATTENDEES, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS

Download our printable cards and attach a chocolate, packaged cookie, candy or anything else that is economical and message appropriate. Ask the children of the church to hand these out after the service as a reminder of the special program.



BIBLE VERSES ABOUT GOD'S LOVE

John 3:16

Deuteronomy 7:9

Psalms 86:15

John 15:9-17

Galatians 2:20

1 John 4:7-8

John 13:34-35

1 John 4:19

Psalms 136:1

Ephesians 2:4-7

1 Corinthians 13:4-8