

Called to become neighbors with those near and far by  
joyfully walking together in God's peace

## Washington Mennonite Church

May 12, 2024 – 9:30 AM

LOYAL LOVE: WHERE YOU GO, I GO

We welcome all to this place for the worship of God and for Christian fellowship.  
Let us worship God in spirit and in truth, reaching out to one another in Christ's love.  
We welcome our guests and visitors and hope you will join us again soon.

### GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

**Prelude Preparation** – Andrea Nussbaum

**Welcoming God's People** – Becky Widmer

**Gathering Songs** – Adam Voth Unruh

VT 1 – *Summoned by the God Who Made Us*

VT 527 – *Bless the Arms that Comfort*

### TELLING GOD'S STORY

**Children's Focus** – Nick Detweiler-Stoddard

"I Love Ruthie" by P.A. Smouse

**Hearing Scripture** – Ruth 1:1-22

<sup>8</sup> Then Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back, each of you, to your mother's home..."<sup>9b</sup> Then she kissed them goodbye and they wept aloud <sup>10</sup> but they said to her, "No, we will go back with you to your people."

<sup>11a</sup> But Naomi said, "Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me?... <sup>12a</sup> Return home, my daughters... <sup>13b</sup> No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you, because the LORD's hand has turned against me!"

<sup>14</sup> At this they wept aloud again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her. <sup>15</sup> "Look," said Naomi, "your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her."

<sup>16</sup> But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. <sup>17</sup> Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me."

**Sermon** – Nick Detweiler-Stoddard

"Stubborn, Loyal Love: Refusing to leave you alone"

### RESPONDING TO GOD-WITH-US

**Response Song**

VT 779 – *You're Not Alone*

**Congregational Sharing & Praying** – Nick Detweiler-Stoddard

**Offering Financial Gifts**

### SENT WITH STUBBORN LOVE

**Benediction**

**Sending Song**

VT 173 – *The Lord Your God is with You*

**Tech Hosts** – Gay Widmer, Amy Widmer

**Greeter** – Sandy Buhrow

**Sunday Morning Schedule:**

May 19 – Nick Detweiler-Stoddard, Pentecost

May 26 – Elizabeth Pfeiffer, Joy of Music

June 2 – Nick Detweiler-Stoddard

June 9 – Susan Janzen, from CPMC

**Upcoming Events:**

May 12 – Halcyon House Service, 2:20pm

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**Mission Statement** - As followers of Jesus Christ, we are a community of faith empowered by the Holy Spirit, seeking to love God with all our hearts, minds, souls, and strength, and to love others as ourselves.

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**Ministers:** All of God's People **Pastor:** Nick Stoddard (605)940-7212

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