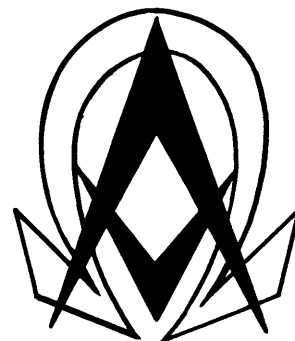


LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING



We all love Pop Corn and Hot Chocolate on cold Winter nights! We all love the way the fire burns and the wood smells. And we love having our families sitting there with us even though we argue sometimes about what television program to watch!

You know – people use the word “LOVE” for all kinds of thoughts and feels, but the most important meaning of LOVE is the “Law of Love” which Jesus taught by His life on earth.

Remember how the Hebrews made a covenant promise with God and agreed to live by the Ten Commandments Law (Exodus 20: 1-17)? Well – Jesus taught a SHORT CUT for following all of the Hebrew laws that will work even for us in our laws today. He called it the Law of Love and you can write down His exact words from Matthew 22: 35-40_____

Jesus gave many examples of God’s Plan of Love in stories He told called “Parables.” Each choir member should look up a different parable and tell about it at choir. How about acting out two or three of His stories. Here are some parables for you and your friends to read:

The Candle under a bushel	Matt. 5: 14-17
The Father and Two Sons	Matt. 21: 28-32
The Lost Coin	Luke 15: 8-10
The Lost Sheep	Luke 15: 1-8
The Mustard Seed	Mark 4: 31-32
The House Built on Rock and Sand	Matt. 7: 24-27
The Talents	Matt. 25: 14-30
The Sower	Mark 4: 1-13
The Good Samaritan	Luke 10: 30-37
The Good Shepherd and the Sheep	John 10: 11-10
The Pounds	Luke 19: 12-27

As we sing “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” we are reminded that God expects our lives to show the MEANING OF LOVE just as the life of Jesus did:

ALPHA means_____

OMEGA means_____

Listen to the tune and notice the pattern of eighth notes on every second beat of every second measure! Can you tell when the MAJOR mode turns to the MINOR mode for a couple of measures? Ask your director to help you learn the difference.

Our world today needs “The Law of Love” just as much as did the world in which Charles Wesley wrote this hymn more than two hundred years ago so why don’t we all learn this hymn as our promise to God that LOVE comes first in our lives!