



MUSIC MUSINGS

HYMN OF THE MONTH

"What Wondrous Love is This"

This American folk hymn originated in Appalachia in the early 1800s and is sometimes referred to as a "white spiritual." Like all true folk music, the origins of the text remain unknown and the song was passed on through rote singing. The haunting modal melody was derived from a popular 1701 English Ballad describing the exploits of the pirate, Captain William Kidd. However, the melody predates this ballade by possibly more than a century.

The hymns lyrics first appeared in an 1811 camp meeting songbook during "The Second Great Awakening," which was a protestant religious revival movement during the early 19th century in America. This songbook was published in Lynchburg, Virginia. The text and melody were first published together in 1835 in "The Southern Harmony," a book of shape note hymns compiled by William Walker.

The words of this Lenten hymn express the wonder of how Jesus could love us enough to die on a cross to save us from our sins.

Resources: Wikipedia; [Hymn Story](#) by Richard Niell Donovan; [Amazing Grace](#) by Kenneth W.

Osbeck

The MESSENGER

Ron and I want to thank each of you for the beautiful Christmas cards we received. What a blessing you are! We hope everyone had a Blessed Holiday Season.

Thank you too for the thoughtful homebound Christmas bag of goodies for Ron.

Last but not least, our heartfelt thanks for your prayers during Ron's hospitalization, the visits from Pastor Brown and others, and the cards.

Ron is doing much better now. Praise God!

In Christian Love,
Ronnie and Dianna Phillips

Thank You!

Thank you for the contributions of cookies, powdered drink mix, and coffee for the Sunday morning Fellowship Area in the narthex. We greatly appreciate your support of this ministry to the congregation and to visitors.

Bev Eddings and Suzanne Perkins

To all of our church family.

Thank you so much for your generous outpouring of love and caring. We deeply appreciate everything that was done for our family.

Love, the Jo Ellen Scott family

Thank You!

Thanks for the lovely, bright, cheerful, warm tied Prayer Shawl that was given to me.

You know who you are "Anonymous".
Bless you one and all.

In Christ's Love,
Dorothy Shumate

Adult Sunday School Opportunities Sundays 10:15 –11:00 a.m.



In the Library:

A lectionary study based on lessons in *"The Present Word"* study book.

The winter series is *"Creation: A Divine Cycle"*, from *Psalms, Luke, and Galatians*.

The spring series is *"God Loves Us"*, from First John, Ephesians, John, Joel, Psalms, Romans and Jonah.

Room 53:

A proverbs study, based on lessons by Rob Harbison. Upcoming theses include Home Life, Husbands and Wives, The Worthy Woman, Parents and Children, and The Nation.

Room 63:

For young adults and parents:

A study using *"Experiencing the Heart of Jesus, Knowing his Heart, Feeling His Love"*, by Max Lucado.