

## WEST SUFFOLK BAPTIST CHURCH

23 October 2022

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

Hymn #213 "O Word of God Incarnate"

OT Scripture Isaiah 55

Hymn #435 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

NT Scripture John 3:1-21

Reverse: "If We Could Speak All Tongues of Earth & Heaven"

Message: "A Still More Excellent Way"  
1 Corinthians 13

Hymn #23 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

Benediction

This Evening: "Illness, Aging, & the Sovereignty of God"  
Ecclesiastes 3:1

Wednesday: "The Book of the Prophet Habakkuk"

Next Lord's Day: Reformation Sunday  
"The Love of God is Eternal"  
1 Corinthians 13:8-13

**A note for parents of small children:** Our church encourages its members and our visitors to include their children in our worship services. We understand that this practice will result in some distractions from time to time, and that forbearance and patience are required by all. Our foyer and all classrooms are equipped with speakers in order to serve as worship service behavior training areas or as cry rooms, as necessary. Please be mindful of others who may be being distracted from worship and avail yourselves of them.

## If We Could Speak All Tongues of Earth and Heaven

by Rob Atkins

- 1 If we could speak all tongues of earth and heaven  
but have not love our prophecy is vain;  
though every mystery to us is open  
to talk of love will be an empty claim.  
But love is swift to clear misunderstanding,  
love is not proud, insisting on display  
and love is rich in patient understanding:  
grant us, oh Lord of love to seek the better way.
- 2 If we should give to others when we prosper  
but have not love, we fail the final test:  
if we should place our substance on the altar,  
our sacrifice, if boastful, is not blessed.  
For love is clean and clear in its intentions,  
lifts up its face to face the light of day,  
love is pure harmony without pretension:  
grant us, oh Lord of love to find the better way.
- 3 If by our faith we make the mountains tremble  
but have not love, then nothing do we win:  
we are but noisy gongs or clanging cymbals  
condemned to sink to silence in the end.  
But love is always faithful in rejoicing,  
lifts up a song of hope that never fails  
love is a choir of perfect blended voices:  
grant us, oh Lord of love to choose the better way.
- 4 When we were young we fought for worldly glory,  
but worldly ways in time all have to die.  
We see in part as in a mirror darkly  
and wait in hope for love's bright sun to rise.  
Faith, hope and love, these three remain our story  
but faith and hope will vanish in the day;  
as we await love's triumph in the glory  
grant us, oh Lord of love to love the better way.

tune: Londonderry Air ("O Danny Boy")