December 19, 2021

**Readings:** Matt. 2:1,2 Ps. 150:1-6 John 4:24

**Speaker:** Pastor Tim McCardel

Christmas Series: ReDiscover Christmas: Good News In Troubling Times

Today's Message: Finding Love in Our Differences

Psalm 40:11, 12 "My only hope is Your love... for my problems are too big for me to solve..."

Jehovah Roi - "I am the God who shepherds you."

Romans 8:39 "Nothing... will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

## 1. Consider The Mysterious Magi

Matthew 2:1, 2

John 4:24

"In <u>spirit and in truth</u>" - <u>true worship</u> not merely a display (act) of spirituality but <u>concerned</u> with <u>spiritual</u> realities.

**NOTICE**: No Pharisees, No Sadducees, no spiritual VIP's invited to Jesus' birth!

## 2. Jesus Christ is Love Embodied

John 10:11

Romans 5:8

1 John 4:7-16

<u>Transforming TRUTH</u>: When We <u>Surrender</u> to <u>Jesus' Love</u> we are <u>restored</u>... <u>fulfilled</u> in His love <u>for</u> us... We <u>live</u> <u>in Him</u> and <u>He lives in us</u>...

<u>Our Solid Foundation</u>: "It's <u>not</u> the strength of your faith but the <u>object</u> of your faith that <u>saves you</u>. We are <u>more sinful</u> and <u>flawed</u> in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are <u>more loved</u> and <u>accepted</u> in <u>Christ Jesus</u> than <u>we ever dared hope</u>." ~ Tim Keller

## 3. Jesus' Love Defines and Propels True Christ Followers

John 13:34, 35

<u>Jesus' Love</u>: <u>Defines</u> His followers... it <u>Brands</u> Us... at least it <u>should</u>.

Matthew 5:43, 44

1 John 4:18, 19

<u>Jesus' Love</u>: In His children <u>drives</u> out the fear <u>within</u> ourselves; it's <u>humble</u>, it <u>listens</u>, it <u>overwhelms</u> all obstacles.

Ephesians 3:17-19