

## Love that Confronts

The Book of Malachi

We doubt God's love.

We give God our leftovers.

We are unfaithful.

We don't trust God.

We are selfish.

We are ungrateful.

### Considerations for the week

Malachi's listeners complain: Where is the God of justice? Consider how this mirrors modern frustration with injustice.

The book begins with the Lord's declaration: "I have loved you". Why do people doubt God's love? Relate this to the tendency to interpret God's love through circumstances.

They are invited to return to God. How does this invitation reveal His patience and desire for relationship?

God points out that they offer blemished sacrifices in worship. Consider whether there are aspects of modern worship and ministry that may be analogous to their blemished sacrifices.

God often exhorts against marital unfaithfulness, as He does here. Why this sin particularly? Recall other places in scripture where He does likewise. How might this relate to the covenant relationship with God.

God is revealed to be a refiner and purifier. What does this teach us about the nature of spiritual transformation?

Choose now to examine the areas in which you fail to keep commitments to God and choose also to accept the challenge to give God your first and your best.

*Please use these considerations for personal reflection, small group discussions, and with friends and family.*



**But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays. And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves.**

– Malachi 4:2, NIV

Scripture read today during worship:

Malachi 3:10-12

Malachi 4:1-2

### Prayer today

Members will be praying for us during the service today and also during the week. Please email us at [prayer@rtbchurch.org](mailto:prayer@rtbchurch.org) to let us know how we may pray for you.

## Today's order of service

Prelude, *I Stand in Awe*

Call to worship

Hymn, *Ancient of Days*

Hymn 262, *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Hymn 66, *To God Be the Glory*

Hymn, *Great Things*

Offertory

Reading and prayer

Hymn, *Great Things*

Message

Hymn of response 350

*'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*

Benediction

Postlude, *This Is My Father's World*

## Weekly events

Today after the service, Cookies & Coffee, in parlor

Young adults fellowship, Monday at 6:45pm. Dinner and discussion for those in college or starting careers.

Mom's Day Out, Tuesday and Friday, 9am – 2pm  
pre-registration required

Women's Bible study, Tues. at 10 am or Thurs. at 7 pm

Wednesday

Kids' Music Class, 5-6 pm

Dinner, 5:30-6:30 pm. Menu: beef taco salad,  
fruit, cheesecake, ice cream

Prayer, 6:30 pm in the prayer room

BLAST! Children's Bible study and fun, 6:00 pm

Ladies' international Bible class (Zoom), 6:45 pm

Sermon discussion on Zoom, 7 pm

Choir rehearsal, 7:45 pm

Joy Program, Thursday, 9am-noon, conversational  
English classes, Bible study, crafts, and handbells

Endurance men's Bible study, Thursday at 6pm  
Focus: college-aged / young adult men

Young internationals Bible study, Saturday at 7 pm

Men's Bible study, every-other Saturday at 8 am  
Meets this week, March 21

Sunday morning

Adult Bible study, 9:30 am

Worship, 10:45 am

Children's Church at sermon time

**The church office has information on events.**

Phone: 713.559.6875 Email: [office@rtbchurch.org](mailto:office@rtbchurch.org)

The office is open Tuesday - Friday, 9am-3pm

### Summer camp for children

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays in July

Pre-registration is required.

**VBS** Our Vacation  
Bible School will be  
held June 22-26.

**Got the app?** You can  
download our free mobile  
app by searching for  
"RTBC" in the Apple or  
Android store.

Our website is at  
<https://rtbc.faith>

**rtbc**  
online giving



**Children's Passion Play** will take place on Easter Sunday.  
Rehearsal will be Saturday April 4th. Contact Lindsay for details.

**Easter Cantata** A musical presentation by our choir  
and orchestra depicting the death and resurrection of  
Christ Jesus. Palm Sunday morning, March 29

Please be advised that our services are livestreamed to the internet. Your participation in the service serves as your consent to the broadcast of your image and voice and to the broadcast of the image and voice of your participating minor children.