



Christ Lutheran Church

1820 Knight Avenue North

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Church Office: 1-320-864-4549

Pastor: *Rev. Katherine Rood*

Christian Education Coordinator: *Susie Christianson*

Secretary: *Dawn Peterson*

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God's Work. Our Hands

March 15, 2020

Dear Church Family:

'God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. "Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth." The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.' (Psalm 46:1-3, 10-11)

We are all aware of ongoing reports from the Center for Disease Control, Minnesota Department of Health, and escalating numbers across the country regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. Daily, if not round the clock, we are being cautioned to wash our hands regularly and/or use hand sanitizer, exercise physical distancing (no hugging or handshakes), cover a cough or sneeze with our elbow, to stay home if we are sick, and to self-monitor any symptoms we may have, seeking advice by telephone from a healthcare provider to determine whether medical evaluation is needed.

Recommendations include a directive to stock your pantry, fill prescriptions, and acquire other over-the-counter medications you regularly use. **If for any reason you are unable to do so personally, call the church office and we'll provide assistance as we are able.** This is what Christians do to provide assistance for family, friends, and neighbors. **If you would be willing to help with this type of ministry, notify Pastor Katherine immediately so a list can be created. People interested in connecting with our most isolated and vulnerable members via telephone during this time are encouraged to do the same.**

It is also recommended we reduce social interactions and limit travel to avoid coming in contact with infected individuals. Even if you do not contract the virus or experience only mild symptoms, it is possible to be a carrier and unwittingly spread COVID-19 to those who are highly vulnerable. Hospitals, nursing homes and assisted living facilities have a locked-door policy in effect until further notice. Our school and city officials are working diligently to update us as changes occur. Christ Lutheran will also keep our website and Facebook page updated regularly going forward. **If you do not have computer access, please let us know and every effort will be made to communicate updates to you via telephone or mailings.**

Important information regarding Christ Lutheran Worship and ministry activities are included in this mailing, be sure to read everything carefully. How we "do" church going forward is a work in process, and where possible, technology will serve to keep us socially connected. **Remember to check the CLC website and Facebook page for updates; pray diligently for your leaders, our church family, larger community, and country.**

Last but not least, be aware that your financial stewardship is essential to ensure our service of the Gospel as we journey in this time filled with many unknowns. Even so, our confidence and joy is in God, our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. God bless and keep us all, every one!

In Christ's Service,

Rev. Katherine Rood