



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In accord with recommendations and requests from civil authorities, our Central States Synod Bishop, Susan Candea, has requested all congregations to cease conducting corporate worship (and all other group gatherings) through the end of March. As Lutherans, with our understanding that Word and Sacrament ministry is the very center of our life as Christians, this is strange and uncharted territory for us. Nevertheless, we are concerned to respect the counsel of those in civil authority, and to care for our neighbors by doing our part to slow the spread of COVID-19. Therefore all gatherings at Gloria Dei, including worship, will cease through the end of March.

Our intention is to conduct a spoken weekend liturgy (with one assistant) which will be posted on our website and our Facebook page by Sunday morning. We will also continue to post our bulletin online, so that congregation members may follow along and participate in worship in this way.

We are also concerned to provide assistance to our members who need to stay at home and consequently require help with groceries or other errands. If you are willing to help with such situations, please call or email the church office. Likewise, if you are in need of such help, please call or email the church office. We will endeavor to help connect those needing assistance with those able to provide such assistance.

During this time when we are not able to gather for worship, education, music and other activities, we ask you to remember that the expenses of our congregation continue, and we are (as always) dependent upon the faithful financial stewardship of our members. We trust and are confident that God will continue to provide for our common ministry of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. According to your own circumstances and mobility we suggest that you either bring your financial gifts to the Church office, or drop them in the mail.

During this time we encourage you to pray especially for the sick, those at higher risk, all medical workers, and for all in civil authority.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jacobson+  
Brandon Parks, Congregation Council President

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