



March 12, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Gathering together as a community is vital to our life as followers of Jesus Christ. It is our hope at Faith to continue gathering for worship, missional ministries and fellowship throughout this time. However, in response to the evolving situation with the COVID-19 global pandemic, this could change. We will rely on recommendations and ordinances from our federal, state and local governments, the CDC, and our governing church body to make decisions on postponing or cancelling church activities.

1. Currently, **we have taken the following measures** in our worship services:
 - Foregone handshaking during the Passing of the Peace and in the receiving line
 - Foregone the use of intinction and the Common Cup during Holy Communion
2. Depending on the risk to our local community, **you may see the following changes** in our worship services:
 - Forego Holy Communion
 - Forego passing the offering plate through the pews
3. Finally, if we are directed by the city, county or state, **it is possible worship services** could be cancelled. We are hopeful this will not happen, but if it does, we are working on ways to get together online and will continue to post sermons on our website.

Pastor Candice and Janet Hernandez attended a Town Hall meeting for community leaders in O'Fallon and were informed by both the Mayor and the Chief of Police to direct folks to the CDC and Illinois Department of Health websites for the most accurate and up-to-date information. Links are provided below.

We give thanks to God for the people of Faith Lutheran and for the mission we share in proclaiming Christ. This continues to be our work and we trust the Holy Spirit will challenge us to find new ways to serve the vulnerable and support each other through this time.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Candice Wassell
Jeannie VanderKruik, Church Council President

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website: www.cdc.gov
Illinois Department of Public Health website: dph.illinois.gov