



Christ Lutheran Church

86 PLANTATION DR. LAKE JACKSON, TEXAS 77566-0948

March 16, 2020

An urgent letter re: COVID-19 crisis

“Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.” *Isaiah 41:10*

At their meeting last Sunday, Congregation Council members made perhaps one of the toughest decisions in the life of the congregation. Everyone truly wanted to continue to worship every Sunday as close to usual as possible.

We recognized the church and our worship and relationships with each other play a central and foundational role in our faith life together. We also recognized the need for a common place to share our concerns and struggles, especially during a time of crisis, and to hear and experience God’s words of love, mercy, and comfort. We recognized the need we all feel for some “normalcy” in the midst of a chaotic time.

With some reluctance and with tears in eyes, the Congregation Council voted to **suspend worship services and all church-sponsored activities for at least two weeks**. This means no worship service will be held at the church on the next two Sundays, March 22nd and 29th.

We will make every effort to maintain clear communication with everyone in the congregation. We will provide video worship and other options via YouTube. We encourage everyone to stay in touch with each other through whatever means works the best: e-mail, Facebook, text, and telephone.

We are the church, all of us together! The building or place of worship is not. Even our physical gathering is not the church. As we see in John 4, the Gospel lesson we read last Sunday, “God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

We have a team of volunteers at the church who will be collecting supplies. If you have needs, or know of someone else who does, or if you want to donate supplies, please contact the church office (979-297-2013 or clcoffice2019@gmail.com).

Do the usual things you do to stay healthy. Read the Bible and pray together with others, by phone or online. Ask God for wisdom and patience, as we all seek an end to the COIV-19 crisis. Care for your mental health needs, as well. People prone to concerns such as depression or anxiety may see these feelings intensify during these days. Watch out for and care for one another.

Gods’ peace,
Pastor Paul Geisler