

May 29, 2020

Dear Members of the Trinity Family,

This Sunday, May 31, is Pentecost Sunday, a festival in the church that celebrates God's gift of the Holy Spirit. In many ways it will be a special day for our community of faith – those who have been a part of the Trinity family for many years as well as those who have begun worshipping with us online in the past few months. Our worship together on Sunday will include the Sacrament of Holy Communion, a meal of grace and forgiveness that we have been missing for over two months since the threat of coronavirus. On Sunday morning, worship will also feature a virtual choir anthem that will include seeing and hearing our choir members share their gift for music. This was a monumental effort that will bring added joy and meaning to our worship on Sunday.

In preparation to celebrate Holy Communion in our homes on Sunday, each of you is invited to come to the red canopy door at Trinity tomorrow, Saturday, May 30 from 11:30 am to 12:15 pm to pick up a candle and a small loaf of communion bread. Please enter the campus via North Main Street, drive to the red canopy door where you can reach out of your car to obtain the bread and a candle, and then follow the lot down the hill to exit via Townes Street. Pastor Parham, Vicar Luke, Deacon Amy, Deacon Mandi, several staff members, and I will be there (donning our masks) to greet you. While you are venturing out to church, we also invite you to bring non-perishable food items that can be dropped off at the red canopy door to donate to folks in our community who are struggling to feed their families. Trinity will collect the items and share them with local food pantries.

On Sunday morning at 10:00 am, we will gather in our homes for online worship. Everything you need for worship – the bulletin, children's materials, and information about giving to Trinity – can be found on the website at www.trinitylutheran.ws. I invite you to prepare a small altar in your home that may include a candle, a small loaf of bread, wine if it is accessible in your home,

and any other symbol of faith that has meaning for you. During the service, after the Lord's Prayer, all of us will receive the bread and wine, the body and blood of our Lord. More directions will be available in Sunday's bulletin. I invite you to take a picture of you, your family, and your home altar and post it to Facebook so that we can see each other and feel closer to this community of faith that we share.

Prior to Sunday morning worship at 8:45, Coffee and Conversation will be hosted via Zoom followed by a class entitled *Reforesting Faith: What Trees Tell Us About the Nature of God and God's Love for Us* from 9:00 to 9:45. A class for elementary school children will be provided via Zoom at 11:15 am. Information about connecting to these classes is included at the end of this communication.

On Wednesday evening, a worship service featuring Holden Evening Prayer will premiere at 6:00 pm. This service, one of our favorites, is peaceful, meditative, soothing, and will help you transition from the busyness of the day to the quiet and rest of evening. I hope that you will choose to gather with our church family on Sunday morning at 10:00 and again on Wednesday at 6:00.

My colleagues and I are continuing to keep you all close in our prayers. May God bless you with peace and hope this day.

Pentecost blessings to you!
Pastor Susan Crowell