



Dear members of Zion,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

No, this isn't going to be a sermon, but is there a better way to begin than to be reminded of God's undeserved love through Jesus which gives us solid, lasting peace, no matter what is going on in the world?

Last week at this time, Chris and I were in Florida. Our daughter had made us aware of the schools closing this past week. I had suggested some minor changes for our worship services last Sunday (no handshakes or passing the collection plates). Then everything exploded, guidelines started changing by the day and now we find ourselves in uncharted territory. Our government – and the 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment reminds us that the government is God's representative – has mandated that we not gather for worship in groups more than 10. Of course we will abide by those restrictions and have canceled worship services and other activities until further notice.

Some churches are scheduling worship in groups of 10 or less. Others are finding ways to livestream or put worship services on their websites or facebook pages. Since you have a pastor who is tech challenged, we'll be doing something more old-fashioned for the time being. For as long as the restrictions are in place, we'll have a weekly bulletin you may access at our web page or facebook page. There will also be a brief family devotion posted you may choose to use by yourself or with your family at home. If I figure out how to put a video online, you'll be notified as well.

If you would like to receive the Lord's Supper or have a brief devotion in person, you are invited to come to the church at your convenience (or I'd be happy to have a private devotion at your home). Call or text me at 262.483.0407 or e-mail [revsdb@aol.com](mailto:revsdb@aol.com) to schedule.

In the meantime, use this opportunity to check in on your family and friends (especially your elderly ones), to spend more time with your children, to touch base with friends from church to let them know that you're thinking about them. And sleep in peace, safe in the care and protection of our all powerful and gracious God, knowing that he will never leave or forsake us.

Together in Christ,

Pastor Bode