

Fireside Chat Service for March 22, 2020

Welcome & Life of the Church

- Facebook - Please like page, stay connected!
<https://www.facebook.com/germondschurch/>
- Offering and pledges - feel free to mail in checks, set up automated banking, or give through zelle app on your phone. Contact Pastor Abbie for help.
- I want you to know that your Church in Society team voted to donate \$2000 to People to People - our county food pantry to help those experiencing food insecurity. Cash donations are best. They are making home deliveries. If you are in a low risk group and able to volunteer with them, Meals on Wheels, or T.O.U.C.H. - please reach out and let them know.
- Bible Study - This Wednesday at 9:30 via Zoom. Let me know - email link.
- Thank you, to all Deacons, Elders, and thoughtful congregation members who have been reaching out, checking in and making sure everyone is ok.
- Please call or email me if you need to talk to someone, if you're going to murder your family, or there's anything else I can do. I'm here for you.

Opening Prayer

God of Heaven and Earth, it is to you we turn in times of trouble. We gather this morning in community to lift up our voices in prayer. We set aside some time to draw close to you. To be reminded of what matters. To seek the peace that you offer us. We ask that you make us instruments of your peace in a world

experiencing fear and chaos.

For those experiencing fear, Lord, we ask you set their hearts at ease.

For those feeling their financial stability teetering on the edge, Lord, we ask that you hold them steady, see them through, and help us to be bolsters to them also.

For those grieving loss, Lord, be with them, bring them comfort and may they not feel alone.

For those who are sick we ask that you strengthen their bodies and steady their breathing.

For the nurses and doctors, caregivers, and all those still working hard to care for the sick - be a strength to them, bring them a calm and a steadiness that fuels them in the face of the storm, that restores them in the face of exhaustion.

Lord, we offer up this time and space of our hearts to you. As we seek to love you with our whole selves, and love our neighbor as ourselves during this time of upheaval. May your peace calm us and draw us together, bind us as one people, a people who seek to care for and love one another above all else. Amen.

Time with Young Disciples

Tuning out the noise. Finding peace in the quiet.

Scripture (reading from NIV this morning)

Psalm 89:1-5

I will sing of the Lord's great love forever;

with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known

through all generations.

I will declare that your love stands firm forever,

that you have established your faithfulness in heaven itself.

You said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one,

I have sworn to David my servant,

‘I will establish your line forever

and make your throne firm through all generations.’”

The heavens praise your wonders, Lord,

your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones.

Mark 12:28-34 (read to 44 if you choose)

28 One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”

29 “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.’^[a] **30** Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’^[b] **31** The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’^[c] There is no commandment greater than these.”

32 “Well said, teacher,” the man replied. “You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. **33** To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

34 When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.

The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

Anthem and other music suggestions

“O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee” arr. Anthony Maglione

<https://youtu.be/o4FhFozCX-w>

It Is Well With My Soul - sung by Audrey Assad

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zY5o9mP22V0>

Benediction

Go and love God with all your heart and soul, mind and strength. And love your neighbor as yourself. Go in peace.