

Friends,

As I wrote to you yesterday, information on the ground has been fluid and changing by the hour. Following our correspondence, we learned that the Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Chattanooga, The Rev. Brad Whittaker, has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. Brad is doing well and is expected to fully recover. Unfortunately, many of us from St. Timothy's attended the Thorne Sparkman School of Theology at St. Paul's. Even though the timing for experiencing symptoms from exposure to Brad has expired, we have decided that caution is the best option at this time. Therefore, we are adjusting our plans as follows:

- There will be **no in-person gatherings for worship for the next three weeks including tomorrow, March 15**, when we will offer Morning Prayer for the 10:30 am service through Facebook Live (link below). We are exploring other streaming sources that will be available in the upcoming weeks (March 22 and 29).

<https://www.facebook.com/sttimothyepiscopal/?ref=bookmarks>

- Following Morning Prayer, I invite you to experience worship live with Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, at the National Cathedral via the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aUGZLwnLhUU&feature=youtu.be>

- The funeral service for Patsy Jones has been postponed until a later date.
- The church office will be closed this week; only essential small group gatherings and critical ministries will take place as needed.
- We will have Morning Prayer Monday through Thursday at 8:00 am through the following Zoom link:

<https://zoom.us/j/198022335>

- We will offer a service of Compline at 8:00 pm Sunday through Thursday evenings beginning tomorrow (Sunday) at the following Zoom link:

<https://zoom.us/j/763072558>

This will not be my last communication with you during this trying time. Please do not hesitate to call if you need anything. In closing I will leave you with this prayer from the New Zealand Book of Prayer:

God of the present moment, God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart. Bring hope and courage to your children as they wait in uncertainty. Bring hope that you will make them the equal of whatever lies ahead. Bring them courage to

endure what cannot be avoided, for your will is health and wholeness; you are God, and we need you. Amen.

Stay calm . . . and wash your hands.

In Christ's love,
Derrick+