

A message regarding COVID-19

Dear Holy Trinity Family,

Grace + Peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

We live in challenging times, but we must remember that this is not the first time that the Church or the world has faced hardships and adversities. COVID-19 (Coronavirus) is an issue that is causing a lot of anxiety in our congregation and community. There is hoarding in the grocery stores. There are cancellations of conferences and gatherings of all sorts.

Your pastors are monitoring the situation for Holy Trinity from multiple angles—via Catawba County Public Health, the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the U.S. Government. The Gospel and the well-being of the Church of God are of our utmost concern. Currently, the situation in Catawba County does not warrant altering our worship schedule; however, this may change in the future. We want to let you know that the Holy Trinity leadership team is working to put plans in place, should COVID-19 affect our community.

Holy Trinity encourages you to practice the 3 P's along with us:

- **Prevention**
- **Planning**
- **Prayer**

PREVENTION

- We are working to make sure commonly used surfaces are being cleaned with increased regularity.
- We encourage members to refrain from handshaking when sharing the peace, and have equipped our worship spaces with hand sanitizer to be used by parishioners during worship.
- We remind you to wash your hands regularly. Do not come to the church building if you are feeling unwell. If you are unable to be here in person, we invite you worship with us at home via the livestream on our website. www.htlchickory.org
- We also invite you to call us if you're feeling overwhelmed. We are here for you.

PLANNING

- Plans are being implemented with our staff and our various ministries to prepare for future needs.
- We invite you to create a plan for yourself and your family, should someone close to you contract the virus. Having a plan can make the unknown feel less overwhelming.

PRAYER

Finally, people of Holy Trinity, we encourage you to pray.

Pray the Lord's Prayer each time you wash your hands. Pray for those affected. Pray for families who have lost loved ones. Pray for the sick. Pray for first-responders, laboratory workers, and scientists. Pray for communities impacted, college students whose schools are closed for the rest of the semester, professors who are scrambling to teach in-person courses online. Pray for IT departments, travel companies, dock workers, and all who will be over-employed or under-employed due to this virus. Pray for those who feel overwhelmed, frightened, or paralyzed with the unknown.

We believe in the One called Emmanuel—God is with us. God is with you. We are with you. Through God's loving hand, and together, we will all get through this.

In Christ,

PASTOR WEBB

Pastor Chris Webb

Pastor Tesdahl

Pastor Jasmine Tesdahl