

Greetings Members and Friends of Desert Hills Lutheran Church,

Good morning. It is Sunday morning and I'm missing you. I miss the welcome at the door at 7:30 am from Don Holm. I miss the wonderful music at all three Sunday services: the choirs, the laughter, the prayers, the conversations, the smiles. I'm looking forward to the end of this physical distancing. Please know that I also was missing Saturday worship, but our great Saturday band and Pastor Ken's message helped.

Troy and Pastor Ken and musicians did a great job of creating an online service. I look forward to bringing a message to you next weekend. The text is Jesus and the nameless woman at the well from John 4. Take a look at it. For fun read the chapter (the longest conversation that Jesus had with anyone in the gospels) and find three things you found interesting or you had questions about. Keep the paper and then see if our thoughts crossed anywhere next weekend.

I'm thinking on doing an online class, maybe a six week course on See Through the Scriptures. It is a basic class on the story of the Bible. Some of you may have some extra time on your hands to take it.

Any of you have some floating anxiety? That is a feeling of anxiousness with an inability to note where it comes from. I had it Saturday. These are extraordinary times and a natural human response is anxiety. What helped me was remembering a favorite passage, Romans 8:35-39:

“35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?  
36 As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”  
37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.  
38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers,  
39 Neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

As we move ahead, if you need help with something please call the church. There is no guarantee that we can absolutely help but having a place to call and a group of members still connected during this time of physical distance is a very good thing. The biggest thing I can say on this Sunday is celebrate God's grace, resolve to live as Jesus' disciples, and find ways to make a difference. Be safe and be of good courage, our God is a great God.

Pastor Martin

