

In-Person Worship Paused for Three Weeks

“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” – John 13:35 NRS

Beginning this Sunday, November 29, 2020 and for the following two weeks, worship services will be held online only. (December 6 & 13)

This decision was based on the recommendation of The Lakes Lutheran Church Reopening Team and the Congregation Council. Both the Reopening Team and Congregation Council have been carefully watching the rising number of cases, increasing positivity rate, and other data from our community.

This decision is never easy or made lightly. In-person worship has been very positive for our church community. Church members have followed the self-screening, social distancing, and mask-wearing guidelines recommended by the reopening committee. It has been a tremendous blessing to see familiar faces.

I know for several of you who have been attending worship in-person this news is disappointing. However, we know that as followers of Jesus, we have a greater call to answer, that is to love our neighbors. By moving worship services online, we participate in our community's need to limit public gatherings so as to limit the spread of Covid-19 in the Las Vegas community that we are called to serve and love as God loves them.

Our Lutheran tradition reminds that where God's Word is heard, there the Spirit of God is present and God's power to transform lives. Watching services online, although not as social, allows for God's Word to continue to be heard. It has been said many times, and I feel perhaps needs to be said again, during this time of pandemic, the church has never closed. The Word of God is still alive, moving, and transforming our church community and the world.

In three weeks, the reopening team and congregation council will gather again online to pray, to discuss, and to discern the best way forward to keep our congregation safe and to serve our local community. In the meantime, if you would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact me and we can make arrangements. Check-in with each other. Pray for this community of faith.

See you online.

Be safe. Be blessed. God has this.

Peace,

Pastor Ron Poe