



SAMMAMISH
Presbyterian Church

Dear Friends,

We are reaching out to you today, as part of our continuing commitment to keep you informed about the church's response to the spread of COVID-19 here in our region, and how your leaders at SPC are prioritizing the physical and spiritual well-being of our congregation, as well as all who use our facilities.

Please read this email in its entirety, as it contains important information about Sunday worship and our continuing engagement as part of our church life.

WORSHIP ONLINE TOMORROW

After much discussion, research and guidance, we have decided that **worship tomorrow will be available online ONLY**. We have long wanted to provide online worship as a supplement, for those unable to be present in person; the fact that we are trying a live online worship for the first time must signal a strange series of events indeed! Still, this was not a decision we reached lightly, and our reasoning is as follows:

- The recommendations of the Department of Health, King County, and our local government to avoid bringing large groups of people together
- The recommendation of the Seattle Presbytery, of which we are part, to move services online for this Sunday
- The implications of managing both the reality and the perception of having a COVID-19 tested positive person on our campus.

WORSHIP SUNDAY MORNING, MARCH 8, 10am

In order to participate in worship, sign in to your Facebook account and follow these instructions (also listed on [SPC's Facebook page](#)):

1. From your News Feed, click **Watch** on the left.
2. Click **Live** below Watch on the left.
3. Click **Search** at the top of your screen, and type in **Sammamish Presbyterian Church** to find the video, beginning at 10am on Sunday

While we are grateful to be able to launch a live worship service with such short notice, we also recognize that not everyone at SPC will be able to access the Facebook live platform. Our intention is to have the service livestream through the SPC website, which is more widely accessible, but there was not enough time to make that happen for March 8. We are working towards that goal.

WHAT CAN I DO?

Many of you have reached out, offering your help for those who may need assistance during this time. In order for the highest number of people to join us online tomorrow, we encourage those who are able to reach out to anyone from church who doesn't do Facebook, or who may need a little help to access the service online. Help

them get it set up, or invite them to watch with you tomorrow! In the midst of this enforced separateness, we all need to connect as a community, even if it looks a bit different.

LOOKING AHEAD

To that end, in the coming days, assuming we are going to need to be primarily online for a few weeks, we will be looking geographically at our congregation, to identify folks who could form temporary **Sunday Worship Small Groups** in their immediate neighborhood. We want to encourage and support small gatherings, so that for next Sunday's worship, you are not watching alone, but with a small group of neighbors from your SPC family. We will let you know more details about that as the week progresses.

While the impacts of the coronavirus mean some changes to our daily lives, our physical, spiritual and emotional needs have not been put on hold and we must continue to care for ourselves, as well as those around us. It is often in circumstances like these that we turn towards God with a new energy and resolve. Here are a few ways to do so, in the coming days:

- Watch Sunday worship on the Facebook live platform or on www.spconline.org where the service will be posted on Monday, March 9. We would love for you to try out both [giving online](#) and submitting a [prayer request online](#). We expect there will be some glitches and stumbling this first time we try to worship online: let us know how the whole worship experience was for you!
- Watch the video of Kelly's Spiritual Practices class, available on the website by Tuesday, March 10, for anyone who wishes to access the content and join in the communal practice of those disciplines that draw us closer to God. You don't need to have attended the first week to participate.
- [Sign up here](#) for the Lenten Daily Devotionals via email. It's not too late!

We want to faithfully continue to be the church, no matter what the circumstances. When the early church couldn't meet in the open, they met in homes and cherished the experience of not being alone. As people who live in faith, not fear, let us ask God for help to think and act together, with creativity, resourcefulness and courage. As always, let's stay in conversation. Thank you for your feedback and prayers, as we continue to make our way together.

And don't forget to Spring Forward, so we see you online at 10am!

Faithfully,

Jeff & Kelly
SPC Pastors

22522 NE Inglewood Hill Road | Sammamish, WA 98074

Worship: Sundays at 10:00

Main office: 425.868.5186 ext 107

Email: mainoffice@spconline.org

Web: www.spconline.org