



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In Bishop Suarez letter to us late last Friday, he left to “each congregation... what the leadership considers is best for their context” when it comes to worship and other congregational ministries. All who felt comfortable being in an assembly gathered for worship last Sunday; of course, many of us needed to stay away from the crowd as well.

The Centers for Disease Control is now encouraging groups to limit themselves to no more than 10. In light of this latest announcement, the Congregation Council and staff have decided to adjust our approach to worship for the next 2 weeks.

Sundays:

- We will not gather for worship.
- We will email to you a link to a worship experience led by the Prs. Joe and Adam, assistants and Shawn by 10:30 AM on Sunday morning.
- Worship will include readings, sermon, prayers, music.
- On Saturday we will email to you an outline of our worship for Sunday morning that you may use to participate.

Wednesdays:

- We will not gather for Responsive or Evening Prayer [nor will there be our Wednesday meal, classes or rehearsals]
- We will make available a meditation that follows our theme of “Living the Life” on Wednesdays for the next 3 weeks. Ironically, the meditation this week is on “Worship.”

Because of the dynamic nature of the situation, we will be evaluating our approach once again by April 1. Please know that we are aware that many of us want to be together for worship. We heard that message clearly from you last weekend. However, at this time we must take precautions to discourage the spread of the virus. If you do not have access to email, you may want to gather with friends at their home who have this capability.

Giving:

On Sunday someone asked about how we may receive offerings in these unique days. With this new approach, the question becomes even more relevant. One friend mailed her offering with a note: “not able to get to church, but I know we have to pay our bills.” Of course, we give to our Lord not simply to pay Progress Energy. At PoP

what motivates our giving is our Lord who has so abundantly given himself. So, we then use our resources to feed folk locally, to proclaim God's word at the park, to teach children at VBS and much more. If you are not able attend worship at this time, you may mail your tithe or offering to the Church Office or give online by going to our website www.poplargo.org and clicking on the icon that leads to a page with instructions.

Now, as always, we have the blessed opportunity to live as God's own in Christ Jesus. It means that "we rejoice with those who rejoice" and "weep with those who weep." Simply because we are having to stay away from crowds does not mean that we cannot be a neighbor to a friend or stranger who is in need.

Let us continue in our prayers for those in particular need in these days.

Prs. Joe and Adam

