



## Christ the King Lutheran Church

10285 Ravenna Road  
Twinsburg, OH 44087  
Phone: 330-425-7377

[www.ctktwinsburg.com](http://www.ctktwinsburg.com)  
[office@ctktwinsburg.com](mailto:office@ctktwinsburg.com)

Rev. Matthew Groenke  
Senior Pastor  
[pmatthew@ctktwinsburg.com](mailto:pmatthew@ctktwinsburg.com)

Deacon Patricia Jabre  
Minister of Discipleship & Youth  
[pjabre@ctktwinsburg.com](mailto:pjabre@ctktwinsburg.com)

### Our Mission

To Shine the Light of Jesus  
To Reflect His Unconditional Love  
And Mirror His Kindness  
to All People



March 17, 2020

Dear members of Christ the King,

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ! After much deliberation and discernment amongst the leadership of Christ the King, we will be cancelling public worship services at least until April 1<sup>st</sup> in light of the latest information on the covid-19 pandemic. Bible studies will be also not be held, Lenten meals and Wednesday Lenten worship services also are cancelled. The Easter cantata has been postponed until a later date and rehearsals cancelled for the time being. Sunday School has also been cancelled for the foreseeable future.

These decisions have not been made lightly, and I would like to thank those in leadership for their faithfulness and commitment to God and living out the Gospel mandate to love God with everything we have and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. On that note, I urge us to check in on each other through phone calls and emails. If anyone is afraid to venture out, especially those who are most vulnerable and in the at-risk part of our community to seek assistance from someone else. We are part of the body of Christ, redeemed and claimed by a God whose love will never let us go. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior.

We are looking into ways to worship together virtually and these options will be made known to you soon. In the midst of deep anxiety and uncertainty, scripture can often comfort and give hope. I remember the words of Paul who said, **"Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer."** (Romans 12:12) As we practice social distancing to slow the spread of the virus and flatten the curve of this pandemic, we are witnessing love for our neighbor. Remember to take time for prayer and scripture reading. The ministries of the church will still continue, as such the mechanism of mailing in our offerings to the church office takes on added importance as there is no way of knowing for sure when Christ the King will gather again for public worship. The church staff will maintain office hours and be available. In the midst of intense change and adversity, God's love for you and presence with you through the Holy Spirit will never change.

I would like to close with this prayer shared by the Bishop of our synod, Bishop Abraham Allende:

**Gracious God, it is good for us to gather as your beloved in community. We treasure your presence with us in word and meal, song and prayer. Be with us in these days when gathering together as often as we would like is not possible. When we must be apart for reasons of safety, we trust that you surround us with your sheltering wings. Encourage us in connecting as we are able, reaching out to our neighbors in need and being persistent in prayer. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our constant companion. Amen.**

Peace,

Pastor Matthew Groenke