

April 3rd, 2020

Dear All,

We are now on the very brink of Holy Week, the most important week in our year. This year perhaps more than others we are prepared to walk the way of the cross with Jesus -- perhaps you've already begun to walk the way of the cross in your own life. Wherever we may be, however we may be affected by the virus, the quarantines, the closures, or the layoffs, we can be sure that our steps down this way are not taken in vain: they invite us to a further identification with Jesus in his sorrows, pains, and Passion -- and with those of the world for which he died. And, as St. Paul writes, "If we share with him in a death like his, we will certainly share with him in a resurrection like his."

Needless to say, the Rev'd Canon Jeremy Davies, our Holy Week preacher this year, is unable to be with us due to coronavirus travel restrictions from the UK. Instead I'll be preaching the services of Holy Week, though in a somewhat abbreviated series of meditations rather than the more developed offerings a guest preacher would normally be able to offer! I'm hoping we might get Canon Davies to be our preacher next year -- but in the meantime we'll shift accordingly. Thankfully, at least as of today (though that could change at any point) we still anticipate being able to livestream the services from church with the small group you're now accustomed to seeing: David and me, George, our wardens Lisa and Paul, Anna, and Kim. We have been hard at work adapting these services to their new setting, and I hope you'll be pleased with the result. In substance they will be much the same as you might expect (though without footwashing on Maundy Thursday); simply reduced in scale if not in scope.

Maybe surprisingly, and thankfully, attendance has remained largely the same from meeting in church to meeting over livestream. What that means for me in particular is that, while the number of people present in church remains small, and the chairs are arranged as for an intimate gathering (no more than for a casual dinner with close friends), I am aware of the camera as representing each and all of you -- and in that way you are each present, fully and completely, as if in the same closeness and proximity. Strangely, it has increased the intimacy of the Liturgy for me, even while on the surface the remove of the internet and the emptiness of the church would seem to increase only the sense of separation. I am grateful for this new intimacy, and I hope it's something we can all prayerfully enjoy together as the days draw on.

Help from the YADAS:

I continue to be extremely grateful for Margo, Devon, and the YADAs who have volunteered to help with groceries, errands, technology, or anything else you might need, especially if you're a member of the many "vulnerable populations" to COVID-19. Please, if you find yourself in need of any kind of help or assistance, be in touch with Margo, Toni, or me, and we will put you in touch with one of the YADAs who will be happy to help. I will add, though, if the YADAs are helping you with groceries or other errands, please do not insist on going with them to the store -- the whole point is to keep you safe and out of harm's way as much as possible, and at the very least, to keep a limited number of people in public circulation during this time of "shelter-in-place." Just give them a list, and don't be afraid to be specific about the things you're looking for.

With love and prayers,
Fr. Blake

Bulletin for the [Livestream Service](#)

Link to our Facebook to watch the [Livestream Service](#)

Link to our website to watch the [Livestream Service](#) in real time or save it for later

Information for our virtual coffee hour on Sunday:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/938713253>

The Meeting ID is: 938 713 253.

To call in, dial (720) 707-2699 or (346) 248-7799.

Ways to Give - Mail a check to 2300 Bancroft Way, [Online](#) or [via Text](#)