



# St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

*Sharing Christ in Faith, Fellowship & Service*

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**A CONGREGATION OF THE EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

Senior Pastor  
**Rev. David  
Frerichs**

•  
Director of  
Music  
**Colin  
Knoth**

•  
Parish  
Administrator  
**Ruth  
Church**

•  
Council  
President  
**Mary  
Halliburton**

March 12, 2020

Dear Beloved of God,

Over the past several weeks, Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church has been taking precautions with passing the peace during worship. Last Sunday, mindful of the emerging reality with COVID-19, the encouragement against handshakes was strengthened.

We live in a time that floods the news with reports and concerns about this pandemic. Frankly, it is overwhelming on so many levels. It is at times like these that I need to remember the promises from scripture:

Surely God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
for the Lord God is my strength and my might;  
he has become my salvation. (Isaiah 12:2)

At Saint Andrew's, the Council Leadership, staff and pastor have been working diligently to plan for contingencies. While the commitment is to live in Christian community, to love our neighbor, and in the process also to love God, decisions intend to keep the most vulnerable among the community of faith safe.

At this point, Saint Andrew's intends to worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. on Sunday. There are some minor modifications in place to encourage the health of all.

- Continue "non-contact" passing of the peace (and encouraging physical distance);
- Offering plates will be on a table at the font so that we will not pass the plate during worship;
- During Holy Communion we will discontinue use of the common cup.

As this situation evolves participants at Saint Andrew's should make wise choices about exposure to crowds. People who are experiencing symptoms should stay home. Those who are vulnerable by reason of age, compromised immune system, or sickness are encouraged to remain home. Anyone who feels fear over receiving Holy Communion or attending worship can feel free to make the decision that best fits for you. Remember that Communion is complete in either of the elements. More so, God's grace is sufficient. Finally, the readings and sermons for Sunday worship are available on the [saintandrewslutheran.org/worship](http://saintandrewslutheran.org/worship) site.

The team's primary commitment is to provide accurate and timely information as it becomes available. Those desiring pastoral care, should contact me at 402-741-2935. As further decisions are made, we will provide updates. Feel free to direct questions to me at any time.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor David Frerichs