

Greetings from First UCC!
**We pray that Easter blessings continue to fill your home
and touch your life!**

During this time, while worship services are suspended at First Church, Rev. Mike would like to share a Sunday Gospel message of hope with you. Even in the midst of this world-wide health emergency, Jesus love is still with us.

You may view the video of Rev. Mike sharing this message by clicking this link...

[May 24th Service](#)

Please use this 'mini-bulletin' to follow along with the service, reading responses along with Kathleen in the video. Our 'mini-bulletin' also includes other information & announcements to keep you informed. Please feel free to share the bulletin & the video with others.



Thanks to Kathleen Dowd for serving as the "People" for our Responsive Readings.

*Thanks, as always, to our Music Director, Sheila Cooke
for recording our worship music each week.*

*Thanks to Paul Ricciardi at Golden Pepper Productions, Inc.
for setting our video up for us each week.*

*Thanks to Gabby & Cliff at Cliff Ross Advertising & Design
for assisting us with our Facebook postings.*



~ First United Church of Christ ~

229 Church St. • Easton • Pennsylvania 18042

Rev. J. Michael Dowd, Pastor ~ Sheila Cooke, Music Director

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Sunday, May 24th, 2020 ~ The Seventh Sunday of Easter ~
~ Memorial Day Weekend ~



Call to Worship:

We worship the God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives.

We need not look up to find God; we need only to look around:

- within ourselves,
- beyond ourselves,
- into the eyes of another.

We need not listen for a distant thunder to find God; we need only listen to:

- the music of life,
- the words of children,

- the questions of the curious,
- the rhythm of a heartbeat.

We worship the God who inhabits our world and who indwells our lives.

Call to Confession:

It is in our confession where we realize our desire for God and our hope for God's mercy. It is in admitting the truth of our lives that we take the first step toward wholeness and healing. So, let us make our confession, first in silent prayer.

Confession of Sin:

God of all the saints, God of all the sinners, hear our prayer. We would be saint-like — holy, good, patient, loving. But we end up feeling more like sinners — full of failures of morality, selfish, mean. Perhaps you see us simply as human — as beloved, and flawed, and trying, and failing and succeeding. In all of this, forgive the wrong that we have done, and bless the good we have accomplished. Keep on loving us, and helping us, and molding us more and more into the image of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and you are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve. Alleluia! Amen.

Prayer for Illumination: (Please read together in unison)

Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing and in our living. Amen.

HOLY SCRIPTURES

Our New Testament Lesson for Sunday, May 24th is: Acts 1:6-14 (NIV)

⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

⁷ He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

¹² Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk^[a] from the city. ¹³ When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

Our Epistle Lesson for Sunday, May 24th is: 1 Peter 4:12-14 & 5:6-11 (NIV)

Verses 4: 12-14

¹² Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

Verses 5: 6-11

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

⁸ Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Gospel Lesson for Sunday, May 24th is: John 17:1-11 (NIV)

17 After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed:

“Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. ² For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. ³ Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

⁶ “I have revealed you^[a] to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. ⁸ For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. ⁹ I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰ All I have is

yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. ¹¹ I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of ^[b] your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.

Meditation ~ "Who Can Answer Jesus' Prayers?" (John 17:6-19)

Here's a good story for football fans. We all remember Reggie White, he was an outstanding defensive end with the Eagles before he signed with the Packers. He was also an ordained minister and known as the minister of defense. Before he signed a 17 million dollar deal with the Packers, White had said that he would look to God to tell him where to play. Later, Green Bay Coach Mike Holmgren confessed that he had left a message on White's answering machine that said, "Reggie, this is God. Go to Green Bay."

Today we want to focus for a few moments on prayer. But not just any prayer; we are focusing on a prayer from the lips of Jesus. Our lesson from John's gospel is often referred to as the "real" Lord's Prayer. It is the one that Jesus prays for his friends, the apostles. Jesus is about to depart from them, and He reviews everything that He has taught them and answers all their questions. There was only one more thing He could do for them.

HE PRAYED FOR THEM. In their presence Jesus prayed, thanking God for His friends, and praying for their well being. Jesus' prayer was startling, breathtaking. Having learned so much from Jesus as they traveled with him for the better part of three years, perhaps what stuck with the apostles most was how he prayed. At one point they asked Jesus to teach them how to pray like he did. And you will recall that Jesus taught them a model prayer that we know today as the Lord's Prayer. But in that day before his crucifixion, Christ prayed for His friends. It is always reassuring when we are going through difficult times to know that someone else is praying for us.

I read about a lawyer named Ned from Australia. He had once visited Kenya, and while there he walked through one of the worst slums in the world, to a hut where three brothers lived. When he entered, he immediately found himself in the center of a dozen or so children leaping into the air with joy at his presence. There was a contagious spirit in that rundown little hut, and soon Ned was jumping up and down with them. Then the kids started a sing-along, and they had a wonderful time together.

When it came time for Ned to leave, something happened that he says he will always remember. From the far side of the room he heard a quiet but clear voice. And what Ned heard was something like this: "We pray for the people of Australia, for Ned and his family." The group of children suddenly became very quiet. Then they responded: "Jesus, remember them when You come into Your Kingdom."

Ned couldn't believe it. In the middle of Africa, in the middle of the worst slum in the world, a group of slum kids, with reverence and earnestness, were holding up before God the people of Australia. The prayer hit him hard, and he thought to himself, "God, if Australia has any hope at all, it will be because of kids like this."

There is a great power in prayer. Do you pray for your friends? My guess is that most of us pray for our families. And certainly when a friend is going through a crisis we pray. But what a difference it might make in our relationships if on a continuing basis we offered up the names of our friends in prayer.

Tony Campolo tells an intriguing story about being in a worship service where a man prayed a very pointed prayer for a friend.

"Dear Lord," the man prayed, "you know Charlie Stoltzfus. He lives in that silver trailer down the road a mile. He's leaving his wife and kids. Please do something to bring the family together."

Amazingly, as the man prayed, he repeated the location "the silver trailer down the road a mile." Tony wanted to say, "KNOCK IT OFF, FELLA. Do you think God's asking, 'What's that address again?'"

After the prayer, Tony preached, and then left to drive home. On the turnpike he noticed a hitchhiker and decided to give him a lift. "My name's Tony," Campolo said, "What's your name?"

"Charlie Stoltzfus," the hitchhiker said.

Campolo was dumbfounded. It was the young man for whom the prayer had been offered. Campolo got off at the next exit.

"Hey, where are you taking me?" asked the hitchhiker.

"Home," Campolo said.

The hitchhiker stared in amazement as Tony drove right to the young fellow's silver trailer. That afternoon that young man and his wife surrendered their lives to Christ. And today that hitchhiker is a preacher of the gospel.

We sometimes forget how powerful a simple prayer can be. Do you pray for your friends? Jesus did. And you know what? In the same way that Jesus prayed for the apostles, he prays for us. In times of confusion, when we are unsure of what to do next, it is a great comfort to know that Jesus is praying for us.

Jesus prayed for the apostles. And Jesus prays for us. But how did he pray? What did he ask for? JESUS PRAYED THAT GOD WOULD HELP HIS FRIENDS REMAIN STRONG. That's always an appropriate prayer the prayer for strength.

Jesus knew the cost of being one of his followers in those early days would be high. He knew there would be times when his disciples' lives would be in danger. He knew there would be times when they would be tempted to run. Notice that Jesus didn't pray that they would be released from their problems. Instead, he prayed for them to be strong. Jesus did not pray for escape but victory. He prayed, "I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one."

Terry Anderson is no stranger to difficult times. He was held hostage longer than anyone else in Beirut: for seven long years. Not everyone would have been able to survive what Terry did, day after day, week after week, year after year. Terry will be the first to tell you that he survived because of prayer.

After a month of captivity, Terry and the other hostages were given Bibles. With nothing else to occupy his time, Terry read and reread the Bible. He was particularly drawn to the Apostle Paul. Paul struggled with his weakness and his pride just as Terry did. And through Paul's struggles, Terry drew closer to Christ and was able to express his love of God.

He was also given another book while being held as a hostage, a book on prayer. But it was not as helpful. The author claimed that prayer is always answered. But Terry says, "I'm not sure anymore that it is even right to ask for anything, except patience and strength to endure whatever comes, and help in understanding."

Terry's experience was extreme, of course. But he speaks as one with authority. The one prayer that God always answers is a prayer for the strength to endure. Jesus prayed for the apostles so that they would find strength during their times of suffering. That was a prayer that was answered time and time again. It's a prayer that some of us have prayed as well. God is faithful. He will not forget us in our time of need.

Jesus prayed for his friends. He prayed that they would be strong. HE ALSO PRAYED THAT THEY WOULD BE UNITED. "Protect them in your name that you have given me," he prayed, "so that they may be one, as we are one." That is such an important message for us. We are not simply a collection of individuals. We are the body of Christ. It is so vitally important that we in the church pull together, that we are united.

Charles E. Jefferson once described the difference between an audience and a church. He said, "An audience is a crowd. A church is a family. An audience is a gathering. A church is a fellowship. An audience is a collection. A church is an organism. An audience is a heap of stones. A church is a temple." And he concludes, "Preachers are ordained not to attract an audience, but to build a church." I hope we all understand that critical difference. If the Rotary Club or the Kiwanis club is torn with dissension, it is a shame. But when the universal church of Jesus Christ is in turmoil, it is a tragedy. Christ depends on us.

There is an old story about two men who were talking, and one of them said, "Did you hear that lightning struck the community Church?"

"No," the other man answered, "I haven't been to that church since they installed that fancy new pulpit. I guess this shows that the Lord was unhappy about such an extravagant waste of money, too."

The first man said incredulously, "But the pulpit was at the opposite end of the church from the place the lightning struck."

"Well," said the second man, "I guess God hadn't been in that church for so long, that He didn't know where the pulpit was." People get upset at some of the silliest things in church.

Rabbi Robert Alpers says he once phoned a synagogue and was greeted with this message. "Welcome to Temple Beth Shalom. If you want information about our programs and events, please press 1. For information on our service hours, please press 2. If you would like to complain to the rabbi, please press 3. If you want to complain about the rabbi, press 4, 5, or 6. It seems that, apparently, more than a few people were upset with the rabbi.

Too many things can disrupt the unity of the church. Jesus knew that it is not easy to maintain unity among a talented, yet sometimes cantankerous group of people. He also knew, however, that we can never accomplish the things that he has called us to accomplish if we do not pull together.

Back in 1957 the First Brethren Church of Sarasota, Florida, had a ground breaking service. But instead of bringing a few shovels for a few special people to use in the ceremony, they brought an old one-horse plow. Recalling the words of Jesus, "Take my yoke upon you," they borrowed an old yoke and two stalwart laymen were hitched up. But the two were unable to pull the plow. Then the members of the Building Committee were put on the rope, but even they could not move the plow. Other church officers were added, including the Sunday school officers and teachers, but still the plow did not move. Finally, every member of the congregation present took hold of the rope, and with every member pulling together, the plow moved, the ground was broken.

I don't think that I need to elaborate too much on how this represents how we all need to work together for Christ's church.

Jesus is praying for us. He is asking God two things in our behalf. First of all He is asking that we shall be strong. I don't know about you, but that is a prayer that I need daily. And secondly he is praying that we will be united. That is one prayer we could help answer ourselves. We could start by praying for our friends. We could also pray for our church. Finally, we could pray for ourselves, that we will truly be strong and that we shall always love one another.



Affirmation of Faith:

~ Posted by the Presbyterian Church, USA

We believe in God — the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church.

We believe the church is one worldwide communion of saints, called from the entire human family.

We believe the church is the single community of believers, reconciled with God and with one another.

We believe that through the working of God's Spirit, unity is a binding force and that we must seek this unity, which must become visible to the world.

We believe that the sin of division, separation and hatred between people and groups has been conquered by Christ.

We commit ourselves to protecting the unity of the church universal. We pledge to make this unity active in all our words, thoughts and deeds.

Posted by the Presbyterian Church, USA

Pastoral Prayer:

Today we remember all the people who have died in support of this country. We remember soldiers and sailors, police and pilots, air traffic controllers and nurses in hospitals - all people who put themselves at risk and strain on behalf of others. We particularly remember those who died in war, and we pray for the day to come soon when war will no longer be necessary, when all people will live in peace.

For the sons and daughters of veterans, for their spouses and those who loved them, we pray. Let their grief and regret turn to sorrow and then on to sustainability. Let life return to them, despite the size of their loss. And let us learn to respect our country, our flag and its commitments, and let each become ever more worthy of our respect.

In your mercy, journey with all whom we name in word and silence ...

Janet Kobler's cousin Karen B, Gregg D, Marjorie Harron, Helena Rapp, Evelyn Ritter, Phyllis Rush, Helen Litzenberger, and Beverly Flad. We share our prayers for the continued health of those who spend their lives in health care and essential jobs, Keith Berger, David Wandersee, Ross Forsythe, David Skillinge, Helen Corona, Jill West and Donna who cares for children in NYC. Today and every day we pray for our hospitalized Veterans and the dedicated staff that care for them and pray for the souls of our Veterans and staff who have lost their battle with COVID. By the presence of your Spirit of mystery and grace encourage us in the days ahead so that we can go faithfully as sisters and brothers of the risen One who taught us to pray...

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth,
As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

Benediction:

As we leave this place, let us depart in the assurance that God does not remain hidden in a cloud, concealed from us.

God is still among us!

Let us not gaze longingly at heaven for a sign.

God is revealed! Let us glimpse the face of Christ in one another. Let us celebrate the Holy Spirit, who works in our community. Let us give glory to God our Creator, today and every day.

Amen.

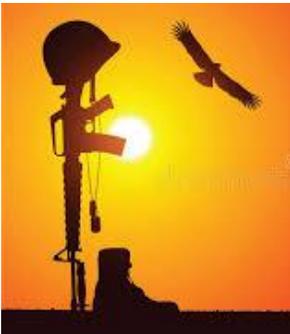


As we navigate our way through this difficult and unpredictable time please share your personal, family and neighbor prayer requests. You can send them by email for our church office: firstucc2@verizon.net or you may call the office & leave a message. Also please share our First UCC Worship program & video with your friends and family.



Announcements for May 24th, 2020 ~

No matter who you are, or where you are on your life's journey,
you're welcome here. Join us in celebrating First UCC's
respect for the past and faith in the future.



As we observe this Memorial Day, together - but
apart, please pray for those families who feel the
pain of this day more sharply than most.
Lord, we lift up to You the families of those who gave
their lives in service to our nation,
asking for Your Peace to fill that empty place.

PLEASE NOTE: Hospitals no longer notify the church or the pastor unless you SPECIFICALLY REQUEST IT. So please, if you or a family member is hospitalized, let us know by calling the office at 610-258-3361! Please see our prayer list below.



OR by calling or texting Rev. Mike directly on his cell phone at 610-216-5471.



IMPORTANT FIRST CHURCH NOTES...

Rev. Dowd & our First Church leadership will continue to monitor the ongoing Corona virus situation. We will be especially mindful of the most vulnerable members of our First Church Family & make decisions accordingly.

We will be meeting on an ongoing basis to discuss upcoming events, projects & etc. We will share information on these decisions as they are made.

Please keep watching your **e-mail**, our **website** at www.firstucceaston.org, or our **Facebook** page at <https://www.facebook.com/FirstUCCEaston> or call our **Church Office at 610-258-3361** for updates & information.



FIRST LADIES & FUNDRAISER NOTES: The **First Ladies Fund Raisers** that were in progress ("Shoo Fly Cake Sale" & Barbeque Sale) **have been CANCELED. Any orders that were already placed will be refunded once we begin gathering for worship again.**

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!! Thank you for supporting the 2020 Easter Egg sale fund raiser for Prison Ministry.



The sale is now over. The left over eggs have been given to Northampton Prison for distribution.

Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely, *Linda Wright*

"SUNSHINE FUND" - We are also most grateful for continued donations to our "Sunshine Fund", which goes to assist any of our First Church Family members who are in need. **THIS FUND IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW, with many people being out of work due to this health emergency.** Though we have published our Easter dedications today, we are still accepting donations to our "Sunshine Fund". **A REMINDER – If you are experiencing an emergency need, please contact the Church Office or Rev. Mike directly. All requests will be kept confidential.**



STEWARDSHIP NOTE ~

- With the outbreak of the Coronavirus, church services and other activities at First UCC have been suspended for the foreseeable future. Even though our church services are suspended, our church expenses (gas bill, electric bill, etc.) must still be paid each month. With this in mind, we ask that you continue to contribute during this health crisis. You can...

- **MAIL your contributions** to the church at 229 Church Street, Easton, PA 18042.
- **DROP your envelope through the MAIL SLOT in the Church St. door of the SCHOOLHOUSE** (formerly the Office). Please make sure your name or envelope number is on it.
- **Online Giving**, which allows you to make your contributions online from either your bank checking or bank savings account. If you are interested in this online option, please contact Rich Phifer at 610-217-9244 or email Rich at raphifer@rcn.com to get further information about this payment option.



ELECTION INFO...

The PA PRIMARY Election has been moved to **JUNE 2nd, 2020**. Please take note of these important deadlines...

MAY 26th is the **LAST DAY to APPLY FOR A MAIL-IN/ABSENTEE BALLOT**. Application to receive a mail in ballot can be filed on line, by emailing ra-voterreg@pa.gov or by calling 1-877-VOTESPA.

You can **REGISTER or APPLY for mail/absentee ballots or find other election information at www.votespa.com**



First Church Prayer Requests ~



Prayer is a powerful thing! God invites us to pray with words of praise, thanksgiving & petitions for others & for ourselves. We gladly receive & share prayer concerns so that we may 'Bear one another's burdens' (Galatians 6:2) and 'Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.' (Romans 12:15).

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF EMERGENCY PASTORAL CARE, please call our church office at 610-258-3361 or Rev. Mike at 610-216-5471.

We all ask for Your blessing, Lord, on all of those who are essential employees & remain in high risk positions, unable to isolate, in order to serve & protect us during this national health emergency & their families. Father bless those in Health Care, First Responders, those who care for others, all those who wait on us in stores, restaurants, those who drive us on public transit & take care of us at other places that we frequent, all those who will be cleaning public places & all those around us who must deal with the public in other ways. Including those in our own families & church family who are 'essential' in their work places (**David S., David W., Helen C., Jill W., Keith B., Keith C., Mark C., Ross F.**) We pray for those who reside in group facilities (nursing homes, hospitals, prisons, group homes, etc.) we pray for Your protection over them Father.

We pray for Your healing for all those afflicted with this Corona virus or who may be ~ Bev Lamberts 14 yr. old great-granddaughter, **Alexis**, living in China, **Beth** (Linda W. relative), **Doug D.** & others ~ we pray that Your healing love will wash over them, strengthen them & bring them to full & complete recovery.

Lord, we pray for our **hospitalized Veterans and the dedicated staff that care for them and we pray for the souls of our Veterans and staff who have lost their battle with COVID.**

Father, we lift up those who struggle with mental & emotional health & substance abuse issues, seen & unseen. For many, the amplified uncertainty of what is happening, fear, income/job loss, family stress, loss of support contacts, etc., is more than they can bear. Lord, speak Your Peace into the spirits of those who are gripped by these struggles that may be spiraling out of control. Help them to see You at the center of their storm & let them know You will be their strength.

Lord, we pray for Your wisdom for those who are making decisions about how to keep us all safer. **Help us all to remain calm but cautious.**

We pray for those whose incomes will be affected due to closures, cancelations & cautions. This is a MAJOR problem for many. Help us to help each other through this time. Bless those who we are in debt to, (utility companies, credit card companies, loan holders, medical facilities, insurance companies, etc.) with understanding & compassion. We pray that we will be kind, compassionate & considerate with each other. Help us to see need in our neighbors & in our own families & help us to reach out, to share & to shine the light of hope on those around us.

Please keep these folks in your prayers... Beverly F., Bob G., Bob L., Chris, Debbie S. & Family, Deacon Anthony Koury, Doris S., Evelyn R., Fawn B., Ferne, Greg D., Helena, James R., Jeanette O. & Family, Jill R., Joe R., Kim Kelty, Lila, Marilyn Crozier Snuggs, Marjorie H., Mark, Marlene M., Michael R., Nancy M., Nancy & Ken A., Naomi, Nicole A., Ray U., Ruth F., Stewart W., & all those affected by the recent storms, fires & other natural disasters, and now disease, Lord, protect them, keep them strong & help them to recover their lives.

We pray for Ashley, Barbara, Bonnie, Brittany, Claritza, Davonna, Davon, Dawn, Delila, Katie, Kimberly, Skyler, Susan, Charlene, Amy, Jailien, Jessica, Rose, Twanda, Wendy, Nancy, Natasha & all officers & prisoners at NC Prison.

ALSO, we lift up the Janney/Perio Family, the Vu family, the family of Robert Trimble, Ross Forsythe & their family, the Rush Family, the Flad/Orso Family & All whose broken hearts endlessly grieve. LORD, send Your sweet, tender & restorative love to cover them all.

Jesus, we pray for our Nation, that we can come together for each other, for this whole world Lord.

We pray for You to watch over parents & families & all of our young people. Especially now, while schools are closed. Lord keep Your hand on them & guide their choices & decisions. Help families to meet the extra needs they have during this time.

We lift up ALL victims of hatred, violence, abuse & their families & all people of faith as we pray for healing for them all, for our nation & an end to hate.

We lift up all of our military and all of our first responders, LORD, we ask for your protection over them all as they serve us all.

We pray for your mercy, grace for all those killed & healing for those wounded & for the families of the victims of the latest acts of gun violence in Portapique, Nova Scotia.. LORD, HELP US!!! Please take hold of those who are so rage filled or unstable that they unleash horrible evil into this world. Give our leaders the courage & compassion to help prevent any more of these tragedies.

We pray for our very planet. It seems to be groaning with earthquakes, floods, tornadoes, germs & all sorts of natural responses to our treatment of our host planet, our home here in the Universe. Lord help us to find better ways to live so we do not endanger ALL life that shares this planet with us.

Jesus, thank You for coming to save us! Without You, we would all be lost. AMEN.





**We all need to be “Corona Warriors”
We need to protect our loved ones, ourselves
& those around us!**

- One way to do that is to **LIMIT CONTACT IN PUBLIC PLACES** to only **NECESSARY** activities. In other words... **STAY HOME!!!**
- If you are sick **STAY HOME & CONTACT YOUR DOCTOR.**
- If you do go out to the store, check with neighbors & friends to see if you can pick up items for them (the fewer folks out there, the better!)
- Use grocery/pharmacy pick up services & delivery services.
- If you go out, make sure to wash your hands, sanitize your carts, car, bag handles, doors knobs, & all high touch areas.
- Katie & Larry Miner have volunteered to run **NECESSARY** errands for folks who are at high risk or cannot get out. You can contact Katie by calling 610-258-4426.

**Please keep watching your e-mail for updates & information!
Say your prayers, wash your hands & stay well!**



The Church Office will be open on a limited basis during this time.
Please call the office at 610-258-3361 if you need something or before you come,
to make sure someone is there.
(But we hope you are all practicing “Social Distancing” &
only go out if it is absolutely necessary.)

Please call the office at 610-258-3361 or e-mail us at firstucc2@verizon.net if you
have prayer requests to share or if you are in need of assistance.

***Say your prayers, wash your hands &
may God’s blessings cover you & those you love!***