



## living grace

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Hope Deutscher Cell: (701) 730-5051

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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 477, Hawley MN 56549 [livinggracehawley@gmail.com](mailto:livinggracehawley@gmail.com)

Sundays (Sept.-May): 9:30 a.m. worship; 10:30 a.m. Fellowship/Sunday School

Worship at The Garrick Theater, 509 Front Street, Hawley

March 27, 2020

Dear Living Grace members,

***Living Grace is suspending all in person worship services and activities until the state of MN and CDC deem it is safe to return to gather in groups.***

In the meantime, Living Grace is committed to being church together, and although we are separated by distance, we are not separated in spirit. Please find a reflection prepared by Pastor Hope Deutscher enclosed in this mailing. As well, we offer these resources, which can also be found on our website, [www.livinggracehawley.org](http://www.livinggracehawley.org):

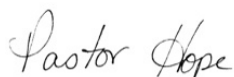
- **ONLINE WORSHIP:** Living Grace, in partnership with Gran-Park-Rollag Parish, will be providing electronic worship services on Rollag Lutheran YouTube Channel. We are working on getting these services broadcast on local Cable Channels.
  - The link to the weekly service are posted on
    - Facebook ([www.facebook.com/livinggrace/](http://www.facebook.com/livinggrace/)),
    - the Living Grace Lutheran Church website,
    - and through e-mail. If you wish to be included on future email notifications, please send an email to [livinggracehawley@gmail.com](mailto:livinggracehawley@gmail.com).
  - Please share these resources with family and friends who do not have access to internet.
  
- **ZOOM Gathering Connection:** Living Grace will be hosting a time to gather and support one another at 7 p.m. on Thursday evenings. (This information will be emailed to members that we have email addresses for. Please contact Pr. Hope if you need electronic invite.)
  - Join Zoom Meeting online:
    - Online: <https://zoom.us/j/410002281> Meeting ID: 410 002 281
    - Or by Phone: +1 253 215 8782 US OR +1 301 715 8592 US Meeting ID: 410 002 281
  
- **PRINTED WORSHIP:** The ELCA is offering a weekly printed service titled *Worship in the Home*, which is available for each Sunday at [blogs.ELCA.org/Worship](http://blogs.ELCA.org/Worship).
  
- **FINANCIAL SUPPORT:** There are two simple ways you can continue to financially support our ministry.
  - **You can mail your financial donations in the enclosed envelope** and send offerings to: Living Grace Lutheran Church, PO Box 477, Hawley, MN 56549
  - Set up **Online Giving** by clicking on the green Give button on the bottom of our front page of [www.livinggracehawley.org](http://www.livinggracehawley.org).
    - We use the app Tithely, which is easy to set up and allows you to give online through your computer or through an application downloaded on your cell phone.

- If you use the Tithely app on your cell phone, search for *Living Grace Lutheran Church*. Please contact Pr. Hope Deutscher if you need more information or help in setting up an account.
  - **AmazonSmile:** If you are shopping online, don't forget to use AmazonSmile and donate to Living Grace Lutheran Church, Hawley, MN!
- **We are thankful for each and every person and gift that is given to this ministry!**
- **YOUTH RESOURCES:** if you are looking for resources to share with your children and grandchildren, please check out these resources:
  - [Better Bible Teacher – Quarantine Sunday School](#)
  - The Northwestern MN ELCA Synod is offering a variety of resources for congregations, including First Third of Life resources on their webpage: <http://nwmnsynod.org/resources/covid19-resources/>
- **VISITATION:** Pastor Hope is still available for pastoral emergencies. We will navigate how we handle them together. Please call her on her cell phone, 701-730-5051. *As we care for one another, we encourage you to call and check in with your neighbors and people who are isolated during this time.*
- **PRAYER:** If you have a prayer request, please contact Loretta Ramstad at ramstad.loretta2@gmail.com or Pr. Hope to share with our email prayer chain. We pray...O God, wherever the CoronaVirus has struck, be present with those who mourn the death of loved ones, comfort those around the world who cannot bury their dead, bring healing and wholeness to the bodies of those who have become sick, give peace to those who are quarantined or stranded away from home; those who have lost employment; children who cannot assemble for school and parents with needs for child care. We pray for those on the front line helping others: physicians, nurses, and home health aides and other employees of hospitals, clinics and care facilities; medical researchers; and the Center for Disease Control. Amen.

The Living Grace website and Facebook page is being updated, as warranted, with resources and links to resources. If more changes are warranted, we will distribute information via email, social media and church announcements.

During this challenging time for all of us, I want us to remember these words from John 5:17 “Jesus answered them, ‘My Father is still working, and I also am working.’” God’s presence among us is very much active, not passive. God’s actively present in the midst of our anxieties, our worries, our grief of a changed life, of a horrific illness harming people and the fear of death. God is present among us. The physical church has changed how we operate, what we look like – but we are still here. We are more relevant than ever as we join together to be the church outside the physical buildings. Know that during this time, and always, the church is still active in doing God’s work – it just looks different than we all imagined – and in our midst, God’s presence is very real and active!

In God’s peace,



Pastor Hope Deutscher