

## **Trinity Apologetic** Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Amid the concerns of the growing fear and response to Coronavirus, Trinity would like to provide encouragement and a Christian response to many questions that we face. In matters of Christian freedom, we are reminded not to use our liberties as a stumbling block to others. Rather, we are called to strive to be faithful in our Christian life and witness. In matters of the Coronavirus, we use this personal responsibility as well. Each member has the dignity of choice in how we respond to the fears around Coronavirus. As members of the Body of Christ, we seek to encourage our members as they walk through situations like these in a way that points to Jesus Christ.

The governor has put a limit of meetings to groups less than 250. Our having six available services, keeps the individual service size below that number. We will continue to worship, following the governmental guidelines. We will however, refrain from the sharing of the peace until the situation resolves.

Holy Communion also brings about a few concerns, but there is a faithful alternative. One can simply refrain from the Sacrament, confident that our God works through means (such as the Lord's Supper) just as He does through the spoken Word. Others may desire to practice Holy Communion without change in their worship practices. Christians should exercise their liberty with their minds fixed on Jesus without causing others to stumble.

The Christian church has faced similar matters of health crises. Martin Luther addressed such concerns during the era of the Bubonic Plague. As followers of Jesus Christ, we "must remain steadfast before the peril of death" because we face death each day in the sure and certain hope of the glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ which conquers death! This allows us the freedom to work out our Christian lives while seeking to ward off this virus which is a consequence of living in a sinful world. Let us walk in the sure knowledge of faith in Christ Jesus, and pray for those who suffer from the virus and its aftermath.