



*Dear Friends in Christ:*  
**PROCLAIM the  
Good News of God  
In Christ Through  
Word and Deed**

*"And every day in the  
temple and at home they*

*did not cease to teach and proclaim Jesus as  
the Messiah." (Acts 5:43)*

*As I write this article we are in the midst of a  
national pandemic otherwise known as COVID-  
19. I am not going to elaborate on the items  
you have no doubt heard over and over again  
regarding hygiene. Furthermore, I am not  
going to heighten the fear that some are wont  
to create with threats like, "it's the end of  
world". Jesus told his disciples in the first  
century "the kingdom of God has come" and  
thus in one sense we have been living in the  
end times. The birth  
of our Lord and the  
incarnation were in  
fact the in breaking of  
the kingdom. "It is not  
for you to know the  
times or periods that  
the Father has set by  
his own authority. But  
you will receive power  
when the Holy Spirit has come upon you and  
you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all  
Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the  
earth."*

*So this is not a time of fear but of faith.  
Unfortunately when the media says they are  
giving us facts not fear, the very facts they give  
are fearful because in part they are unknown.  
It is not a time of panic but one of  
proclamation. And so in the midst of all of this I  
prefer Bishop Eaton expression that we  
practice physical distancing not social  
distancing. This fits beautifully into our series  
over these months of "Living our Baptism".  
"We have one Lord, one faith, one baptism one  
God and Father of us all".*



*This means we are a community of faith, not  
fear, of proclamation not panic. And our  
baptism mission is to proclaim the good news  
of God's presence in Jesus Christ.*

*Think about proclaiming the good news. It's  
easy to envision a pastor in the pulpit on  
Sunday morning bringing the Word of God to  
the gathered people. But in the current context  
when neither the pastor nor the people are in  
the worship space on Sunday how does that  
word come to us?*

*Our baptismal covenant calls us to proclaim  
the good news of God in Christ to each other,  
not just the pastor to us, but also every one of  
us. And not just once in the worship once a  
week but also in our living space even if we  
need to practice physical distancing six feet  
way. We are called to proclaim the good news  
day after day, never ceasing, just as the  
disciples did in the passage quoted from the  
Acts of the Apostles above.*

*What does it mean to  
proclaim the good news of  
God in Christ? As the  
Church, acting together and  
as individuals, we have a  
story to tell. We have the  
story of God's movement in  
our lives through the saving  
actions of Jesus Christ. The*

*life, death and resurrection of Jesus is not  
simply a story in the Bible. Rather it's the story  
of our lives and the story of what brings us life.  
We simply share with others how God is  
working in our lives. We share the story that  
shapes our story.*

*I was moved by the NBA player who pledged  
over one million dollars to provide meals for  
students in the county of his birth in the south.  
This pandemic has brought pain to many and it  
may increase before it decreases but the  
countless acts of charity, kindness and grace  
reflect faith not fear, proclamation not panic as  
together we live out our baptism.*

*Pastor Hal*



**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Pastor Hal.....715-828-1112  
Email.....harkihear@gmail.com  
If you are hospitalized, know someone who is, need pastoral assistance, a prayer request, home visit, private communion or other pastoral service contact Pastor Hal at any of the above.

**BAPTISMS**

Emma Jay Johnson  
Jazmee Cree Johnson



**Passion/Palm Sunday**  
April 05, 2020  
Matthew 26: 14-27:66  
"Passion According to Matthew"

**Maundy/Holy Thursday**  
April 09, 2020  
John 13: 1-17, 31b-35  
"Wash Your Feet"

**Good Friday**  
April 10, 2020  
John 18: 1-19: 42  
"From Arrest to Burial"

**The Resurrection of our Lord**  
April 12, 2020  
Matthew 28: 1-10  
"From Fear to Great Joy"

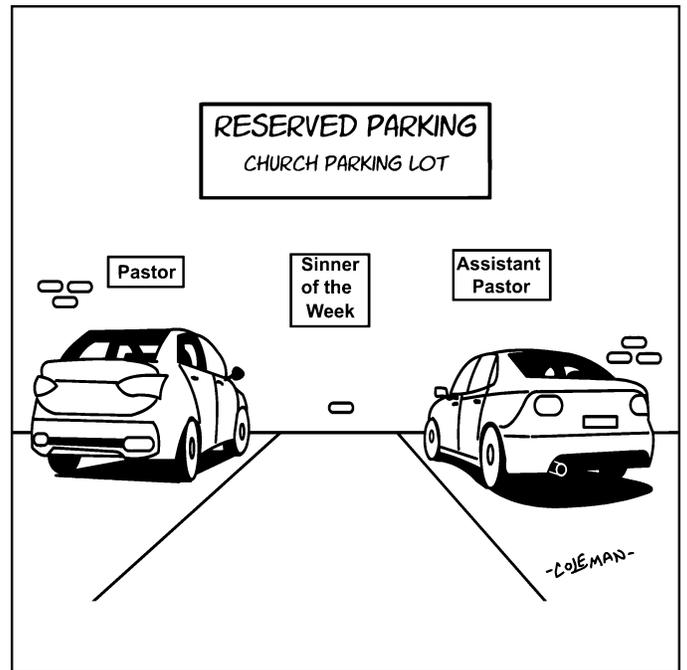
**Second Sunday of Easter**  
April 19, 2020  
John 20: 19-31  
"From Benediction to Commission"

**Third Sunday of Easter**  
April 26, 2020  
Luke 24: 13-35  
"On the Road Again"



**Confirmation NEWS**

**CONFIRMATION** is scheduled to resume on April 15 barring an extension of current guidelines regarding COVID-19. There will be two classes remaining for Grade 7 and 8 and a third Wednesday of Grade 8 will be the practice. Confirmation is scheduled for May 3, 2020. Confirmands in grade 8 remember to choose a bible verse, bring \$12.00 on the 29<sup>th</sup> for the picture cost and as we resume pick up a robe. We will plan on this going forward unless you hear differently.



**"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"**

I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;  
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face;  
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,  
My sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

—Elizabeth C. Clephane