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Greetings All Saints Family, Friends and Community Family,

Gen 39: 20-21(KJV) “And Joseph’s master took him, and put him into the prison, a place where the king’s prisoners were bound: and he was there in the prison. But the Lord was with Joseph, and shewed him mercy, and gave him favour in the sight of the keeper of the prison.”

As we go through the road of life these days, all we hear in the news is tragedy, trials and tribulations. Humanity is going through a tough time and the morality of the human race is on trial. Sometimes it is a challenge to find some good news. Christians are not shielded from trauma and tragedy. In fact, our trials make us stronger.

Our Thursday night bible study finds us studying in the book of Genesis. We are discussing the dawn of the nation Israel and the family of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph. In our study, Joseph has gone through trial after trial. His brothers hated him and plotted to kill him. They ended up throwing him into a pit and then later selling him to a group of Ishmaelites. He is then sold to an officer of Pharaoh and captain of the guard. As time passed he was falsely accused of sexual assault and cast into prison.

Sometimes in life we too find ourselves faced with one issue after another but my message to the family of All Saints at Northwood is that no matter what dilemma you are confronted with know that the Lord will make a way somehow. Genesis 39: 21 says, “But the Lord was with Joseph...” That same message is for us today. The Lord is with us! I submit to you today that the Lord is with his people, the Lord is with All Saints. Yes, we have been through some things, but we have found favor with the Lord. No matter how rough things get, no matter what situation you find yourself in, know that you are not alone, God is with you.

So, as we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow we must remember that God promised us that He will never leave us or forsake us. David had confidence in God’s grace and declared that goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our life. Sometimes we may not recognize Him but know for sure that He is in our midst.

Finally, we have returned to In-person Worship while still adhering to CDC guidelines and local Covid protocols as well as All Saints safeguards and procedures. I want to urge anyone who has not received a Covid-19 vaccination to please GET THE VACCINATION TODAY. Your life and the life of your family depends on it. We look forward to the day when we all can gather together in worship without having to wear masks, having temperature checks and other procedures but until then, know that The Lord is with you. The Lord will make a way somehow!

Blessings, In the Master’s Service,  
The Rev. Bernard Barber, Pastor