



June 24, 2020

Greetings All Saints Family, Friends and Community Family,

Matthew 9: 37-38 (KJV) “Then saith he unto his disciples, the harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest...”

Just like Jesus was saying to his disciples about 2,020 years ago, He is saying to us today because we too are His disciples, that the harvest truly is plenteous. For us as the church, the body of Christ, God has chosen us to be labourers for such a time as this.

In a time when we are fighting two viruses simultaneously, the covid-19 and the racism-1619, we find ourselves asking how, do we be church for 2020? I believe today just like 2,020 years ago that the harvest is truly plenteous, and I believe All Saints at Northwood are already reacting to the challenge. As we still practice social distancing and stay at home unless absolutely necessary, we are however looking forward to the day when we will gather again at 4215 Loch Raven.

It is my prayer that everyone is staying safe and healthy during these challenging times. Your church council under the capable leadership of President Karyn Stanley are working now to produce a plan for In-Person worship and as soon as we have all the details, we will present it to the congregation. In the interim anyone that would like to work with the planning committee around social and physical distancing recommendations in the sanctuary, please contact the church administrator, Natalie Truesdale. I want to reassure the entire congregation that if you are not comfortable when we do return to In-Person worship that you have my upmost respect to return at your own level of comfortability and we will still be employing the virtual platforms of Facebook Live and Zoom for Bible Study.

As we prepare for returning to In-Person worship we understand that our worship will look and feel different but we also understand that God is doing a new and better thing as we labourers prepare for the harvest of these days. We have been blessed as a congregation to continue to be diligent in our collaboration with the CDC, the ELCA, the Del/Md Synod and local authorities to stay up to date and continue to use the wisdom that our God has provided for us.

So, remember to make sure to test positive for faith, keep a safe distance from doubt and continue to isolate yourself from unbelief. Also remember that even though we currently are in phase 2 we should still stay safe, stay strong and stay at home.

Blessings, In The Master’s Service

The Rev. Bernard Barber, Pastor