November 12, 2021

Dear Friends.

I have been praying the following blessing for myself and for us this week.

May the God of all creation, the God who has created and is still creating, the God whose love and compassion know no end, have mercy upon us and grant us peace, this day and always. Amen.

Sundays Worship Gatherings: In-Person Registration (9 a.m. or 11 a.m.) or Livestream Link (11 a.m.) God has created and is still creating. In preparation for Sunday, I've been mulling over Mark 13:1-8 in which we see Jesus walking away from things that aren't of God, even to the point of leaving the temple. In so doing, he is not walking away from gathering with God's people, which is always good and right (see Hebrews 10:24-25). Jesus is rejecting the distortions which have shown up in the religious circles of his day where religious leaders are seeking their own prominence in the community. This self-exaltation is far from God's way; it is sin, that is, entirely separate from the way of God. The word 'religion' derives from the word 're-ligare,' that is, to be 'again bound.' True religion is to be bound to God, totally in love. Jesus rejects and dismantles that which is false and reminds his followers that even as the things that need to go down are dying, there are birth pangs; this is a set up for God's new, good creation.

Please contact <u>the church office</u> for information about how to register for Sunday's in-person services. Complete building entrance screening <u>here</u> before your arrival. Here are our <u>current guidelines</u> for gathering in-person

Please note: in keeping with provincial guidelines, we must register to attend Sunday services. Some have been double registering by mistake; please remember to cancel your registration if you are not coming to make space for others. Our sanctuary capacity limit is 75 for now, but not forever.

## Or Join the 11 a.m. Livestreamed service online here.

When you click on the link above this will launch the SWC Livestream homepage. From there you may need to click the "Videos" tab to access this Sunday's Livestream.

## Third Tuesday Worship and Prayer in the Sanctuary: November 16 at 7 p.m.

This will be a low-key, "unplugged" worship evening in the church sanctuary; a time to sit in God's presence together in prayer and worship. Everyone is welcome! Please <u>register here.</u> Complete building entrance screening <u>here</u> before your arrival.

## Prayer Gathering by Zoom: Tuesday, November 16

You are welcome to send your <u>prayer requests</u> and the prayer team will remember you before the Lord in our Tuesday prayer time.

May the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7)

With love and prayers,
Pastor Kerry Kronberg (with the whole team)