Greetings, people loved by God!

This past week Center for Disease Control released new guidelines, limiting the gathering of individuals to less than 50 people. Since then, the President has encouraged even fewer. It is anticipated that these restrictions may be in place for up to 8 weeks. These recommendations are not intended to cause fear and panic, nor are they an attack on our faith. Rather, they are in place to direct us as a nation to respond together to slow the spread of the virus so that medical personnel can better manage illness especially for the elderly and those with underlying medical conditions.

As Christians, we are very familiar with the concepts of self-sacrifice for the good of others, and of loving our neighbors as ourselves. To that end, it is important for us to be mindful of the greater good of our community, nation, and world.

In the spirit of doing what is best for our community, Chapel's Board of Elders has approved the temporary suspension of public worship services, Bible classes, Lenten suppers, and other church activities.

Thankfully, God has not left us without ways to be in fellowship (though at a distance) and in His Word. Starting this Wednesday, Chapel will worship together online. Please check Chapel's website (www.chapelofthecross.org) and your email (if you signed up to receive email blasts from church) for the latest information.

Worship will continue to be broadcast on Sundays at 6 p.m. on KFUO AM 850. You may also call the church office and ask for a CD recording of the services to be sent to you.

Since the offering obviously cannot take place during an online worship format, we ask that you continue your good stewardship by giving your tithes and offerings in other ways. You may mail in your offering, you may drop your offering at the office during normal business hours, or you may give online. Click the "give" tab on the home page of our web site and follow the instructions that are posted there. We ask that you make your gifts to the Lord and His church a priority during these next number of weeks when we cannot gather together face to face.

Though we are saddened that we all are in this situation, remember that this is only temporary and this too will pass. God is good. His mercy endures forever. Great is His faithfulness! God is with His people. He is with you!

God's blessings to you in Christ Jesus!

Pastor Laesch