



March 19, 2020

Beloved,

This Sunday we shall try again to livestream the worship service. The tech team, led by the expert Robert Covington, is confident that it should function well. In addition, they plan to have backup platforms available. The internet link will be provided forthcoming.

The Session urges the congregation to participate in the livestream. The civil authorities have given guidance regarding the limitations of public gatherings in order to help slow the spread of COVID-19. However, the concept of “social distancing” is actually contradictory to the very definition of the Church. The English word, *church*, is used to translate the Greek *ekklesia* which means “assembly, gathering, meeting.” As a local church, the community of believers assembles and gathers together to meet with God. So to socially distance from one another is antithetical to the meaning and mission of the Church. The purpose of the livestream, therefore, is to provide as much “congregation” and connection as possible during this time of the COVID crisis.

The worship service will also be videoed and available to view at any time. We do believe, however, that there is an advantage to the livestream. As a person participates, there is a psychological and spiritual benefit. One is encouraged and edified in the knowledge that hundreds of one’s fellow members of ChristChurch are participating in the livestream with you simultaneously. Though socially distanced, nevertheless, we shall confess together our faith and sin; pray and sing together; and listen to God’s Word together. In short, we shall try to be a church.

Please pray for ChristChurch Presbyterian at this time. Specifically, that we might serve one another well.

Blessings,
Jeff