

Isaiah 41:13
For I am the Lord your God who takes hold
of your right hand and says to you,
Do not fear; I will help you.



Greetings my brothers and sister,

After weeks of being told to stay home because of the pandemic we are facing I want to ask you, **“How is it with your soul?”** A question that John Wesley used to open up small group meetings during his time. It is also simply asking someone, “How are you?” But I would like to use the question, “How is it with your soul?” instead. I want you pause for a moment before you continue reading and answer the question, “How is it with your soul?”

If I am to answer my own question, my answer is, “I am going through a period of transition.” And at times, even though I preached and have encouraged you not to fear, there are times I am in fear. It is a valid feeling especially in this unprecedented times. I have never imagine that the entire world will one day **pause**. Pause in a way that we are asked to follow a stay-home order and pause in way that limits our social activities. We also have to adopt to a new way of worshiping together. Thanks to technology that brings people together in worship and I have to transform the parsonage’s dining area into a sanctuary.

These are just some of the things I am adjusting to. What about you? What adjustments have you encounter lately? I know that many of our parents will say - it is a big adjustments that our kids are now at home studying remotely. I am also sure teachers will say, it is also a big adjustment for them to conduct remoter instruction. Many of you are also working from home right now and maybe some have been laid off from work. Transition can cause fear and make us worry. But during this difficult time, I believe that you all know that we can get strength from our Lord.

If this virus is contagious - God’s peace, love, and comfort are the cure for the fears and worries we are all experiencing. Isaiah 43: 13 reminds us, God will reach out to us and will help us. It may not be easy for you to manage your current situation but please never forget that our faith in God will give us hope in the midst of this pandemic. It is our faith that can hold us all together. It is only our faith that can disarm our anxieties especially at this tough times. It is our faith that lead us to believe we are love and God cares for each one us so deeply.

We have faced so many storms in our lives. Some of us almost drowned navigating our struggles...but look at how far you have become. Let us claim and profess, "God is going to calm the storm and God is working for good and safety of all. Here these words today: "Do not fear; I will help you."

In Christ I serve,

Pastor Nory Vedan Leachon