



UPDATE ON DESERT CROSS & COVID-19 — WORSHIP SUSPENDED
March 14, 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The global and national situation has evolved swiftly, as well as the response of the Grand Canyon Synod of the ELCA. We have adjusted our plans for Desert Cross based on **the following message received this morning from our Bishop, The Rev. Deborah K. Hutterer:**

“Having prayerfully considered our current situation with respect to COVID-19, in conversation with bishops from the wider church, and in light of the quickly evolving nature of this pandemic, ***I am recommending that all ELCA congregations in the Grand Canyon Synod, regardless of location or number of congregants, suspend public worship gatherings, events and meetings beginning immediately until at least April 1, possibly longer.***”

This is what we are doing:

- Worship and all events and meetings are suspended until further notice.
- Working on providing online worship—we will keep you posted.
- Working on ways to provide spiritual guidance and contact online with a new sense of community with devotional messages.
- Following guidelines set forth by Grand Canyon Synod of the ELCA, Arizona Department of Health Services, CDC & WHO.
- Continuing to monitor the situation and communicating with you.

What you can do:

- Pray for the church, the world, and all of God’s people in this situation.
- Follow the recommendations for social distancing and hygiene from CDC & WHO.
- Worship with us online (as soon as we are set up).
- Remember the church with your offerings. Gifts can be mailed in or sent with online banking.
- Help us to continue with a non-anxious presence in the community.

In the midst of it all, we will care for one another, we will pray for one another, and we will be Christ’s Church.

God’s peace that passes understanding to you,
Pastor Andrea