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Hello beloved, from Week 2 of Kitchen Table Worship!

Things are strangely quiet around Epworth today. Our food bank and shower ministries are open, but different...lots of gloves, sanitizing wipes, very few volunteers, and only a couple of people in the building at a time. But Laura got a kitten! I wish I could send you the sound of her sweet mew, it's so cute. Instead, you'll have to settle for a photo:

She is the sweetest thing. She has a little cold in her eyes. Her name is Milkshake. :-)



I hope that you were able to join us for worship, either on Facebook Live or on the radio, and that you were able to make a holy time of it. If you weren't able to do that and would like to, please let me know, I'd love to help. This week, we are moving into the next installment of our Lenten worship series, this one about our Christian witness. Our scripture reading will be Matthew 4:18-20, about Jesus calling the fishermen to be his first disciples. Which reminds me, if you don't have a Bible at home, we would love to provide one for you! Just give us a call at the church. Or, if you're comfortable using the computer, you can also find it there at www.biblegateway.com...just type the passage into the search bar, and it will pop right up.

Enclosed you will find a buncha stuff related to worship this Sunday: this week's bulletin, copies of the songs we have chosen for this week, and other stuff to encourage and inspire you. Every week, we are working to think more creatively and provide more resources to keep us all connected with God and with each other; your ideas and requests are welcome! We would love to hear from you. And do send along your prayers and your God sightings to Kathy Reynolds at 423-0689 or kmreynolds3@gmail.com, so that we can send them out by email to everyone just like we always do. Private ones should be sent to me at pastor@eumcfallon.org or give me a call at 775-671-5553.

And thank you for bringing in and mailing your tithes! Even as we have had to close down our in-person worship and meetings, most of our bills remain the same, and the need in our community is as great as ever. If you aren't sure how to do that, you might like to call your bank to set up something automatic, or you are always welcome to mail your giving to us at 280 E Stillwater Ave, Fallon NV 89406. It is so appreciated!

In God's unfailing love,

Pastor Dawn

**The steadfast
love of the Lord
never ceases,
his mercies never
come to an end;
they are new
every morning;
great is your
faithfulness.**

~ Lamentations 3:22-23

The Amazing People of Fallon, Nevada

There are so many people reaching out to help each other, and to serve those in need! It is incredible. Just a few examples:

- Folks are sharing fabric and other supplies, and sewing surgical masks for use at Banner Hospital. Contact Kara Sommer at 775-217-0081 or lovely ladyfox@gmail.com to find out more, or if you would like to participate!
- MANY local restaurants are set up for to-go meals and even delivery! Call your favorite restaurant directly, or go to the Fallon Chamber of Commerce website at www.fallonchamber.com to see the list. It's a great way to support our local businesses.
- Cori Norwalk-Egger is using her resources as a restaurant owner to place orders for folks who can't find what they need at the grocery store. The easiest way to reach her is via Facebook, but if you don't have and don't want a Facebook account you are welcome to call the church at 423-4714 and we will put you in touch!
- Fallon Daily Bread has added a Saturday dinner to our schedule, and we are so glad to have so many folks offer to help! All meals are served to-go, outside. Help us spread the word, because no one needs to go hungry.
- Folks have set up a new Facebook group and other communication systems where they are sharing what they have with each other. Spare rolls of paper towels and toilet paper, canned food, fresh produce, all kinds of stuff.

What a great place we get to live in!

Church Humor ☺



Beware of Scams and Scammers

For as much kindness as we are seeing, there are also scammers out there to beware of. In addition to the usual tricks saying you owe a huge tax bill, which can be scary, we are hearing about possible scams claiming to offer folks their stimulus check from the US Government, related to CoVid 19, asking for personal information or a small fee in order to send the money. If you receive phone calls or emails offering you money, or asking for your personal information (like your social security number or birthdate, or your banking information) don't answer it. Hang up, or delete. The IRS, Department of Social Security, US Treasury Dept, etc. will only contact you by mail. If you stay on the phone (or answer an email), they may threaten you with even greater fees, or even criminal prosecution...don't believe it, friends. Best practice is to hang up, and call your local IRS or social security office directly, using the number in the phone book. If you're not sure, call a friend or family member you trust, or even the non-emergency line at the police station. They will be glad to help.

Kitchen Table Worship

**Taste and see
that the Lord is
good!
Blessed is the one
who takes refuge
in Him.**

~ Psalm 34:8

A huge portion of Jesus' ministry took place at meals, and around mealtimes. At mealtimes is where Jesus showed God's love in abundance, like when he changed water into wine at Cana, and when he multiplied the loaves and the fish to feed thousands. It is where he welcomed the unloved and the sinners, and challenged the powerful. It is where he showed his disciples how the greatest among them must be the greatest servant, when he washed their feet. It is where he saved Peter's life by forgiving his betrayal, over a breakfast of fish on the beach. It is where he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread, when he appeared to many and said the prayer of thanks over the meal at Emmaus. And so, mealtimes have been a sacred thing since the earliest days of the church.



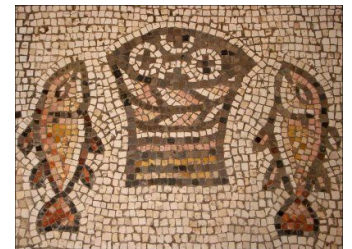
Medieval painting of the Lord's Supper

When you worship this week, you can make mealtime a sacred thing.



Newly discovered fresco showing people sharing Holy Communion, 2nd century. Possibly showing a woman officiating.

1. While you prepare the food, pray and make that your call to worship: give thanks to God for it, for your ability to buy and prepare it, for those who labored to bring it to your table. Pray all of your own love and God's love into it, for those who may be sharing the meal with you and for yourself.
2. Eat slowly. Pray while you eat, remembering those who are hungry, and savoring every bite with its different tastes and textures. Consider the abundance of God in providing for you, the depth of God's love for you, the amazing complexity and beauty of your own body with all of its parts.
3. Pray while you put things away, and wash what needs washing. Let this time be a benediction, a blessing, a reminder of the ways God calls us to discipleship: through clean living, thankfulness, good work, and service.



Loaves and fishes floor mosaic, from St Peter's church on the Sea of Galilee, 4th century



Ancient Christian fish symbol, found in Roman catacombs

And before that, or after that, follow along in the bulletin to pray and sing together. Light a candle if you have one, and invite the presence of God in the Holy Spirit. Sing the songs we have enclosed, or put on your favorite music. Read the scripture passage about Jesus calling the disciples in Matthew 4. Tune in to the sermon on Sunday at 9:30am, and send your thoughts and questions about it to Pastor Dawn by sending her a note to the church, or an email to pastor@eumcfallon.org, or call her cell phone at 775-671-5553. And of course, send your prayers. †