

April 1, 2020

Dear Church Family,

Yes, this really is the pastor, writing to you again. It is not an April Fool's trick!

Tuesday, March 31, Ron Taylor and I recorded the April 5<sup>th</sup> (Palm Sunday) worship service. Your deacons will be distributing those DVDs and CDs later this week. And you should receive the April newsletter, "The Acorn," this week or early next week. We are using a number of methods to get "The Acorn" to you since those who pick up their copy at the church itself are not able to do so. Sharon Kincaid has already sent electronic copies to some. For others, you will either receive the newsletter by mail or with your DVD.

I thought it might be helpful to have the lyrics for the April 05 worship service. Here are the relevant links:

"At the Cross"

<https://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/christomlin/atthecrossoveranred.html>

"It is Well with My Soul"

<https://www.godtube.com/popular-hymns/it-is-well-with-my-soul/>

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

[https://hymnary.org/text/beneath the cross of jesus i fain would](https://hymnary.org/text/beneath_the_cross_of_jesus_i_fain_would)

Let's continue to stay in touch with one another, and lift one another up in prayer, as well as our church as a whole. The Lord is good and He is all-wise. He knows all about the Coronavirus, and He promises to work all things together for our good, "to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose" (Rom. 8:28).

The book of Lamentations is not one of the more familiar biblical books for many of us. There is a brief passage in the third chapter of Lamentations that I find particularly relevant and meaningful for these days.

But this I call to mind,  
and therefore I have hope:  
The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;  
his mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.  
"The Lord is my portion," says my soul,  
"therefore I will hope in him." (Lamentations 3:21-24)

My thoughts and prayers, Oakland Baptist family, turn to you often. Blessings on each one of you.

Pastor Dennis