

Linway Church In Touch

Staying In Touch Without Touch

May 24, 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Friends,

Greetings! We have now moved from *Red Status* to *Yellow* in Allegheny County. Other parts of the state are still under the designation *Red*. What does this mean for the church? Not much change. We have received information from the Presbytery Office as to what we need to consider before we resume our regular worship services and activities. Your Session has met and will communicate the necessary actions we will observe when we prepare to resume Sunday services in the future and permit the use of the Linway facility to various groups. All of this is also predicated on the continued improvement in the fight against the Corona Virus. We hope that the efforts to combat this virus will allow us to move from the *Yellow Status* to the *Green Status* next month. At this point we hope and pray that it may be so. Caution is still the watchword as we begin to exercise more liberty to come and go as we please. Our caution may not only prevent someone else from contracting this virus but may keep us safe as well. I know that you are as anxious to resume our “normal” activities as I am.

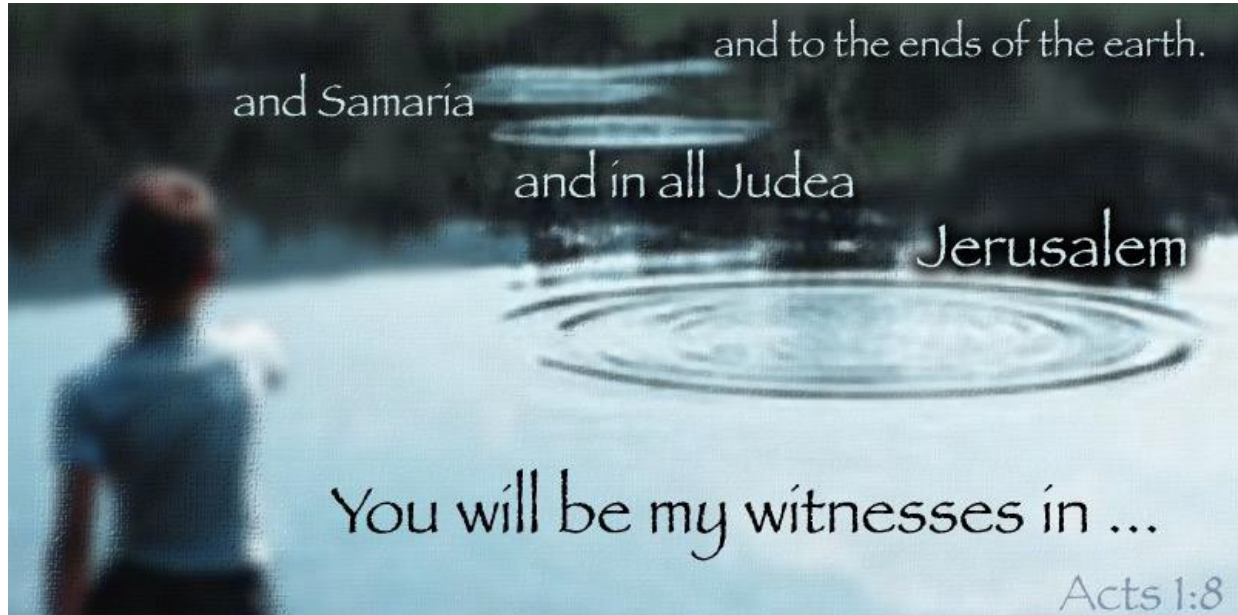
This coming Lord’s Day, May 24th, is the Seventh Sunday in the Easter Season. This year it is also the Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend. Unfortunately, Memorial Day activities have been suspended for this year. While I indicated that I was available to participate in our Community Memorial Day activities at Grandview Cemetery, I learned that those involved with the planning and presentation have decided not to have the service in an effort to prevent the spread of the virus. Let me simply ask you to pause and remember in prayer the men and women who have served our country, and by serving have helped preserve, protect, and defend the freedoms and liberties we cherish and hold dear. Many of them paid the ultimate price with the sacrifice of their life. We must never forget that freedom is not free, and that includes the freedom to worship according to our conscience.

Let me share with you the Scripture readings designated for this Sunday, May 24th, the Seventh Sunday of Easter:

- [Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35](#)
- [Acts 1:6-14](#)
- Epistle: [1 Peter 3:13-22](#)
- Gospel: [John 17:1-11](#)

As before, I encourage you to read one or all of the Scripture texts. I would like to share the message based on Acts 1:6-14. Sometimes the Sunday before Pentecost is remembered as Ascension Sunday. The account of Acts 1:6-14 is a reference to that. The disciples wanted to know what they could expect next. We are told they asked: *Lord, are You restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time?* (Acts 1:6). Jesus’ answer to them is a message to us as well. In the forty days between his resurrection and ascension, Jesus continued to ground his disciples in the fulfillment of the Scripture: *Then He told them, “These are My words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about Me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then He opened their minds to*

understand the Scriptures. He also said to them, "This is what is written: the Messiah would suffer and rise from the dead the third day, and repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are my witnesses of these things" (Luke 24:44-48).



So you see, followers of Jesus need to be grounded in the Scripture. This is why Scripture is part of **every** worship service. Scripture directs us to God's gift of grace in Jesus Christ. But it is not enough to be grounded in Scripture. It is a matter of making what we know through Scripture a part of our daily life. In other words, we are to be witnesses to the reality of Jesus in our life. The first disciples were to stay in Jerusalem until the heavenly Father sent His Holy Spirit. They were to be His witnesses beginning in Jerusalem, and then on to Samaria and Judea, and on to the rest of the world. The implication is clear: How will people know we are followers of the Lord Jesus Christ? How will the next generation know about God's gift of grace in Jesus Christ if we don't tell them and give evidence of that by the life we live? This then, is the mission of the church.

I will be writing to you again next week. I will also give a message from the Linway Sanctuary that will be available on the Linway Church Facebook page and on the Linway website for this coming Sunday, May 24th. For those able to access this technology, I hope you find it meaningful. I sincerely look forward to welcoming you for worship at our Lord's Linway Church when it is safe to do so.

With services and programs suspended there has been a slight decrease in our utility expenses. That is helpful, but there are still expenses that must be covered for our Lord's Linway Church. While your support has **always** been appreciated, it is necessary more than ever now. Finally, let me encourage you to continue to send your tithe and offering to the church. As always, you may send your offering envelope by mail or you can use the new electronic system called *Tithe.ly*. There is information about how to access this technology in the May newsletter and on the Linway website. It is one more way we can stay connected as we seek to live out our faith as witnesses of the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. In the meantime, keep the faith and stay safe.

God Bless You,

Eric E. Dennis, Pastor



*Please remember the following
in our prayers:*

Helen Alexander	Anne Nutter
John Arnold	Dennis Bernhardt
Betty Brinker	Charlotte
Bill Chobanic	Clay & Lois
Dorothy	Cindy Druga
Mike Feigh	Betty Frommell
Gloria	Jason & Jackie
Karen	Tim King
Audrey Koppel	Edward Lloyd
Rita Marrow	Nellie Nicholls
Nan Oskin	Carol Pascarella
Pat	Fran Pepler
Ann Puscaric	Renee
Doreen Sever	Linda Smith
Michelle Smith	Cindy Taylor
Jim Welsh	Irene Young

*"I constantly remember you
in my prayers night and day."
-2 Timothy 1: 3*



*"Greater love has no one than
this, than to lay down one's life
for his friends."*

-John 15: 13

Linway Fundraisers

Sarris Candy Bars \$1.00 each or Giant Eagle Gift Cards in various amounts (\$25, \$50, or \$100)

No order is too small

Candy Bar Flavors (1.5 oz): Milk Chocolate, Peanut Butter, Crisped Rice, or Almond

To order, please contact the church office by email at contact@linwaychurch.org so that we may have your order bagged and ready for you. Pickup will be this Sat., May 23 at 10:30 a.m. in our West Parking Lot (on the Getgo side of the church).

Thank you for your support!

Linway United Presbyterian Church
600 Lincoln Highway North Versailles, PA 15137
Rev. Eric E. Dennis, Pastor 412-824-3555 pastor@linwaychurch.org
Church Office: 412-824-3555 contact@linwaychurch.org
Church Website: www.LinwayChurch.org Facebook Page: [Linway Church](https://www.facebook.com/LinwayChurch)

We are happy to announce:



BBQ

Linway Church
CHICKEN BARBECUE

Take-Out Meals Only

Sat. June 6 2:00–6:00 pm

Held on the Front Lawn – Rain or Shine
Pull into our East Parking Lot to order

COST: \$10.00

Each Meal Includes:

½ BBQ Chicken
Baked Potato
Coleslaw
Dinner Roll
Bottled Water
Sarris Candy Bar



600 Lincoln Highway/Rt. 30, North Versailles
412-824-3555