



**An Update from Brendon, End of Week TWO!
Friday, March 27, 2020**

Dear Emmanuel Family

How are things in your corner of the world? How are you coping with the challenges of social distancing? What level of anxiety are you living with and how are you managing it? And where are you finding joy and hope? I would love to hear your responses to those questions, should you feel comfortable sending a reply.

I have been encouraged by your participation in our times of prayer this past week. I pray that we will be drawn closer to each other and deeper into the life of Jesus as we seek Him together. I have also been encouraged by the creativity and resourcefulness of our staff in maintaining connections and caring for our church family while working remotely.

As we move into our third week of Living in Exile as a church family, we have decided to suspend all gatherings at the church until further notice. We will continue to provide resources for you to engage in worship on a weekly basis (songs, prayers, sermons, and liturgies), and we are working to help groups connect online in a number of ways such as our Zoom prayer times. If you'd like to participate in some of these initiatives but find yourself struggling with the technology please contact us and we'd be happy to help you get connected.

We have also added a page to our website that provides you with links to helpful information and resources for us during this current season. To access that, please go to www.ebap.ca and click on the banner, "New Ways of Connecting at EBC". We will continue to update this throughout this season.

"These are unprecedented times..." is something I have heard many times this week. But we serve a God whose love is constant in any time or season. He is never surprised by any of our circumstances. For reasons best known to him, he has allowed his creation to a place where great beauty and brokenness co-exist for the time being. He is, however, committed to the redemption of all things, including all of our suffering. And he promises to be with us through it all. May we be given the grace to cling to Him and to trust his promises in these unprecedented times. And may our love for him and our walk with him become unprecedented as a result of this time in the wilderness of isolation.

Thank you for your faithfulness in supporting the ministry of our church through your prayers and through your giving. If you are not giving online, please consider doing so. You can contact the office (bookkeeper@ebap.ca) for a code to do so. Or you can drop off your envelopes in the church's mailbox at the front entrance at any time.

Now, may the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:7).

Your brother in Christ,

Brendon