



CHRIST CHURCH, DARTMOUTH

An inclusive church welcoming everyone

61 Dundas Street, Dartmouth, NS
www.christchurchdartmouth.com

May 7, 2020



Christ Asleep in his Boat by Jules Joseph Meynier

He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?" -Mark 4:39-41

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Lord has Risen! Alleluia!

I am sure that we have heard the phrase, "We are all in the same boat!" I have used this form of expression many times, and recently it has been used to describe our current situation as we face COVID-19, where the world is facing the pandemic.

The phrase originated in the 1800s and was used by the people of Greece to refer to risks faced when at sea. Also, when the Titanic sank in 1912, it was used again to describe how no matter what "class" of person you were, you would ultimately have the same fate as your neighbour.

As we continue to live in this altered world, we may find ourselves saying or thinking this. Yet, if we take the time to reflect, we know that this is not the case. We all find ourselves in different circumstances, and that is why we must be kind and patient with one another. Our Christian duty requires it, and we are called to model a loving God. And this is hard as we sometimes find ourselves like the disciples in the boat, who wonder about Jesus in the back of the boat, asleep. God are you with us? Are we alone here? Wake up, see your people in pain! Yet, in the storm, we will get to a point where the winds will be still, and there will be peace.

Today I am giving thanks and keeping many in prayers. The frontline workers, and those who have been laid-off from work. People with and without an internet connection. Families who are being evicted from their home. Hungry people. Lonely people. The mother and father who are separated or divorced and are struggling to co-parent. The single mom, who has to take her child into the store. The elderly person who has no family. The man who suffers from panic or anxiety attacks that is only exacerbated by the current climate. The journalist who diligently plugs away at asking the tough questions. The truck driver on the long haul. The teenager who has no desire to finish school online. The many who are struggling with their mental health.

My friends, we are not all in the same boat. But, if we are kind to one another, if we collectively recognize that there is a strong wind right now, we will get through the storm in our various ways.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Kyle Wagner'.

The Rev. Kyle Wagner
Rector, Christ Church, Dartmouth
Diocese of Nova Scotia and PEI
Anglican Church of Canada