

# Looking for the Light

a devotional from  
ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

by Larry Hamric

## Read:

*"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you should also love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35.*

## Reflect:

The last several weeks of living with the coronavirus epidemic – the daily increase in reported cases and deaths, the addictive twenty-four hour news cycle, the isolation, and the fear inducing reminders of life's uncertainties and risks – all of this takes me back to 9/11. It was an absolutely gorgeous autumn day, sunny and clear. At mid-morning, I went to get coffee. A television was on in the coffee room, showing the stunning video of an airplane crashing into the World Trade Center.

Later that week, amidst great fear, anxiety and uncertainty, there was a worship service. The sermon addressed the tragedy in New York City, of course, but the real focus was on the love that people had expressed to their families by telephone from the World Trade Center, where many were unable to escape and ultimately perished.

The tragedy of the coronavirus can be the occasion for an outpouring of love for those who are sick and dying, for friends and loved ones from whom must remain separated, for our families with whom we are sheltering, for heroic members of the medical community, and for those who put themselves at risk daily to work for the good of all in a time of pandemic.

## Ask:

- How can we show our love for others under the unprecedented conditions in which we are living?
- Loving ourselves can be especially important right now. In what ways does this lead also to demonstrating love for others?
- Whom can we personally thank for their sacrifices during this epidemic?

## Pray:

*Gracious God, we put our trust in your love for us and our love for each other. We have not been in this situation before. We ask that you hear the prayers of your people, and that you be present with us in this time of trial. Your mercy is great. We trust that the Holy Spirit goes before us, behind us, around us, and within us. Amen*

To send us your prayer requests, click on [this link](#) and our church staff and prayer group will add you to our weekly prayer list. You will have the option to specify your request as confidential.

If you would like to contribute to our daily devotionals, please email Pastor Sarah, [sarah@scapc.org](mailto:sarah@scapc.org).

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