



## **Greater Christ Temple Church** *“It Ends and Begins Here...at the Cross”*

Greetings in the matchless name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

I pray that this letter finds you in good health and prospering even in the midst of this Coronavirus (COVID-19) storm that the entire world is contending with. It is during perilous times like this that the church needs to step up and do our part. I believe the church is just as, if not more important than the doctors, nurses, scientist, first responders and other health care professionals who are fighting to provide the necessary care for its citizens. We often say that “the church is the hospital and that everything we need is in the house”. Unfortunately, there are many church hospitals that are closing their doors when people need the church the most.

To keep you informed of Greater Christ Temple (GCT) Apostolic Church’s plan concerning the Coronavirus Pandemic, we will conduct the following:

First, we will do our very best to comply with the guidelines as directed by our national, state, city, and local governmental authorities so long as it does not interfere with our God-given responsibilities. God has given church leaders the responsibility to use their gifts and talents to perfect the saints, to do the work of the ministry, and to edify the body of Christ. There is no disclaimer from God that authorizes His leaders to reframe from their responsibilities during a pandemic or any other calamity. In fact, the church should be more visible and vocal during times like this.

Second, in order to ensure GCT executes its responsibilities to God while simultaneously meeting the mandates of our governmental authorities, I am encouraging GCT members to reframe from physically attending worship services until further notice. GCT Sunday services will be broadcasted live from the church via livestream on Sundays from 11:00am to 12:00pm. Our Chief of Operations will provide the details of how to access our livestream. However, people with immediate spiritual needs may attend church services on Sunday from 11:00am to 12:00pm. An immediate need consist of those needing to be water baptized; those desiring to tarry for the infilling of the Holy Ghost; and for those who need access to an elder or minister to lay hands on them, pray for them, and anoint theirs heads with oil. Should we allow and do these things; according to James, “the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up”. This is our hope.

Third, if we are unable to provide these services in the physical church building, we will then shift to providing services from "house to house" as the saints of old did after the Day of Pentecost. Leaders must be prepared to execute these services should they be called upon. Also, since GCT will be conducting altered services through livestream, members can continue to pay their tithes and give their offerings through Givelify at <https://www.givelify.com/givenow/1.0/MjQ0NTY=/selection>.

Lastly, beginning Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, I solicit members to email their prayer request to [mygctac@gmail.com](mailto:mygctac@gmail.com) and/or post to GCT's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Greater-Christ-Temple-Apostolic-Church-106626217645121/>. Once prayer request are consolidated, they will be posted on GCT's website at <https://www.gctachurch.org/> for members to view and pray for. I will also send daily scripture readings on the church website and Facebook page to encourage members to "be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord". The bottom line is GCT members must tune in daily on the church's website and Facebook page, and check their text and email messages for updates and instructions.

In conclusion, as a church we will get through this plague and pandemic. Remember, "Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most-High, thy habitation; there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling" (Psalms 91:9-10). Therefore, I encourage you to keep trusting God; keep praying; keep believing; stay covered under the blood; get in that secret place of the most-high God; and lastly; don't be afraid to keep working for God even if it puts you in danger. If the doctors, nurses, and healthcare professionals can work under these conditions, then what about the people of God?

I love you all dearly, and I will be praying for your health and welfare during these difficult times.

Prayerfully,

//ORIGINAL SIGNED//

Reginald T. Cox

Pastor, GCT