Dear Members and Friends of LUMC,

Greetings of grace and peace to each of you. Happy September!

Our "at home" worship materials help us praise God as we share Psalm 148. Paul's letter to the Romans continues where last week's words left off in offering us encouragement for our journeys of faith. As we continue our readings in Matthew's gospel, we hear more words from Jesus about how we should live our lives together as the people of God. We will celebrate another love feast this Sunday so please don't forget your bread and beverage.

As schools in Lisbon and in other communities open again, we keep the students, parents, teachers, and staff in prayer. May they adapt to new ways of being together and learning. We are also praying for Joe Gardner who was hospitalized with Covid-19 and remember the prayer concerns from Edra's family we learned of at the end of last week. May God's loving presence comfort all those for whom we are in prayer. We pray as always for those battling Covid-19 and the families of those who have lost their loved ones to this pandemic.

As you know from our recent newsletter, we will try a return to our sanctuary beginning on September 13. I hope you will read the newsletter article which outlines the expectations for our church family so that everyone may stay safe and healthy. **Please be in touch with me if you plan to attend in-person worship and do not care to continue this mailing.** I will continue to mail the worship materials to those who are not yet comfortable being in person and we will keep on with the FB live stream of worship.

Please continue to stay strong in God's promise spoken by the prophet Isaiah, "Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you." - Isaiah 41.10. May God continue to bless us all. Be well.



God's blessings,

Pastor Elizabeth