

**May 9, 2020**

Dear Friends,

A report released yesterday talks about the stress caused by growing unemployment and isolation, and the lack of a definitive end date for the Covid-19 pandemic. Where can we turn in the face of such very real anxiety?

In the Bible, we read:

For this is what the LORD says:  
"As a Mother comforts her child,  
so will I comfort you,  
and you will be comforted ..."  
(Isaiah 66:13)

What a rich and timely word for us as we approach Mother's Day in the midst of this pandemic. God, our heavenly Father, likens Himself to a Mother comforting her child!

And this same Mother-like comfort flows down to us through the rest of the Trinity, as our Lord Jesus assures us, "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you," and indeed He promises us, "And I will ask the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever, even the Spirit of truth ..." (John 14:16-18).

Our Trinitarian God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, comforts and strengthens us as a Mother comforts her child.

This can be a gateway for us to remember and give thanks to God for the comfort and strength He has extended to us through our own Mothers. One son recently shared this moving testimony about his Mother:

"My Mother was feisty, yet sweet, and despite her 4'10" stature, her strength was unmatched and her heart was larger than all others. More than forty years ago she tragically lost two of her children on Easter Sunday ... She passed away on Easter Sunday this year from complications related to Covid-19." What a priceless gift from God this comforting Mother was to her family!

Blessings in Christ,  
Pastor Paul & Janet

P.S. We are also in the midst of National Nurses Week, which runs from May 6 to May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the Mother of modern nursing. Many of us know Nurses who have themselves become infected with the Coronavirus while bringing comfort to many. Let us continue to pray for their health and strength.