

Hi, I'm Jerome Fung, and I'm a member of the Stewardship Committee and the Vestry here at St John's Church in Ithaca.

This is an unprecedented and challenging time for all of us. Being unable to gather in person for Sunday worship and for events like our Lenten Bible study is hard. I know I'm going to miss seeing everyone on Sunday mornings.

Yet, even as we suspend in-person worship, the work of St. John's continues. Maybe you've had the opportunity to catch some of the things we've been live-streaming, like daily Morning Prayer. Loaves & Fishes is continuing to provide food and personal hygiene items to those who need it, on a to-go basis. Mtr. Megan and the Vestry are also committed to continuing pay and benefits for our

parish staff during this time. This means that St. John's continues to have expenses. Our church needs your support more than ever.

For many of you, this is a time of financial uncertainty. Yet, I encourage you to continue contributing to St. John's if you've pledged, and if you haven't, it's not too late to start! Even though we're not gathering in person, it's still easy to support St. John's. You can mail checks to the parish office. Or you can make online contributions via tithe.ly. It's really easy to do this. You don't even need to create an account, although if you do, you can track your online contributions or even set up recurring donations.

[Cut to screencast of parish website.]

The easiest way to give online is via our website, stjohnsithaca.org. There's a "Donate to St. John's" button here on the upper right. If you click it, it brings you to this donate page. *[Click]* If you then click the green "Give Online" button here, all you need is your credit card or bank account information to securely make a contribution. You just need to enter the amount here. If you can give via a bank transfer, which you can do by clicking the button on the bottom here, you'll reduce the processing fees that St. John's has to pay. Also, if you can, please consider selecting "Cover fees?" here, which slightly increases your contribution to cover those processing fees.

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You can also set up an account and give by going directly to tithe.ly. You can set up an account down here, but I'm going to take a moment now to log into my account.

[Fade to black; cut for privacy while I enter my login info.]

Now, after logging in, it already knows that I'm giving to St John's, but if you're doing this for the first time and need to find St. John's, you can just search up here for St. John's Ithaca. Once again, you can make either a one-time donation or an automatic recurring donation.

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Thank you again for your support of St. John's and its ministries during this challenging time. No less importantly, the people who make up St. John's also ask for your prayers. Pray for those who are affected by this coronavirus -- for the sick and dying, for those who care for them, for those who have lost income or jobs, for those who are lonely, and for those in positions of civic authority. And let us remember to pray for each other. With God's help, we will get through this time. Thank you.

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