

TMUC Worship from Home
May 10, 2010

Carol's reflection on the Gospel:

Here we are, Mother's Day 2020 – in the midst of a pandemic that has changed so much – business and schools are reinventing themselves or closing – there is constant news of the pandemic's effects on the economy, and on society. And, though we may not be in the news—there is an effect on us too. You know what you are feeling -- Some feel comfort in being able to spend more time at home. Some feel the stress of too much time at home and that is the tip of the iceberg of the feelings we have.

We are in the midst of it. We are being a faith community at home – in many homes – in many rooms. How fitting is it that we should read the words of Jesus in John's Gospel.

In my Father's house are many rooms ----

It is a passage that is often read at funerals, when we are remembering the life of someone that we love, when we are looking for the words of comfort and healing that faith can bring.

It is an image that I love – I can easily imagine all the different rooms of God's love – each prepared with love and care. And, in my imagining, each one connected to all the others. But what might be architecturally impossible as we know it is somehow easily accomplished by God.

What if we think about that passage not just about something comforting for us after our lives on earth are over, but we think about how we know and experience that right here and right now. In God's house are many dwelling places.

In God's house are many rooms.

And then, what happens if we turn that around. Much like a math equation or logic puzzle – if $A = B$ then $B = A$.

So in the Gospel,

In God's house are many dwelling places, then -- in many dwelling places is God's house.

In God's house are many rooms, then -- In many rooms is God's house.

Each of us, in our own room, in our own place, is in God's place. Each of us, between rooms or places, is still in God's place. Each of us, even if we have no place to call our own, is still in God's place.

We are in God's love. We are in God's light. We are loved.

Here's to the miracle of God's church – the church beyond walls – in every room, in every house, in every place. Amen.