



## **The other side of the wall**

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Earlier this week, one person described yesterday as a wall, obscuring the view of what would come after it. Today we are over the wall and finally know who will be the next president. Yet that doesn't mean that the future is clearly known. Not all of the elections are finalized nor do we truly know what the change in leadership will bring. While it is a relief to have the political mail and texts no longer inundating us, it has been a turbulent fall. Multiple wars, hurricanes, and natural disasters around the world have also added to our stress. On this side of the wall, it is still a challenge to find our equilibrium.

In an email to the Immanuel congregation this morning Rev. Randy Bush shared this:

*It is paradoxically both a moment of unprecedented change as well as predictable routine. The sun rose as always. The world around us still faces significant challenges related to climate change, wars and threats of war, and divides between the "haves" and "have nots." If anything, the election calls people of all political persuasions to a renewed season of engagement - to seek the common good, to listen carefully to the cries of those on the margins and the vulnerable in our midst, to find commonality wherever possible not only with those "across the aisle" but with those who some deem as unworthy of basic civic protection and asylum within our borders.*

In keeping with last week's article "Where is the hope?", I encourage you to remain hopeful in God. This is a time for us to stay engaged with what is happening. Our votes, our prayers, our contributions may seem like small drops in very big oceans, yet if we concentrate on our immediate surroundings, we can make a difference indeed. Instead of being divided by politics, theology, or any other ideologies, may we come together to live out the hope of the Gospel proclaimed by Jesus Christ.

I remind you, too, that our Gathering this Saturday begins with worship at 10:00am. I encourage you to join us either in person at Immanuel Presbyterian Church or via Zoom as we together bring our hopes and concerns before God.

On the other side of the wall, life goes on and hope can always be found ... in God. May you find it to be so.

Grace and Peace.

*Lisa*

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