Hello all,

Hope you had a great weekend!  The sun was a delight when it was out.

Over the Christmas holidays, I caught a cold.  I had a terrible sleep one night and woke up the next morning with a cough, headache and really tired.  I watched tv all day, not really wanting to eat or do anything but sit/lie there.  It felt like a cold, but I checked symptoms against the Covid symptoms and felt reassured that it was just a cold. The next day, I felt better: still had a headache and a "productive" cough, but that still felt like a cold to me. Continued to feel better all week.  Eventually, in speaking with a friend in Toronto (and who is a medical doctor), I decided maybe I should just get a Covid test, just in case.  I booked online and then went to the NAC testing site (you first go to City Hall parking garage to register, and then drive to the parking garage of the NAC - brilliant!  Thanks to the Brodie/Balcome's for letting us know about that!).  I was told by the tester that my results would take 1 - 3 days, but got my results a mere 11 hours later - Covid Not Detected.  Whew!  In an appointment with my doctor, I told her all of this and she said that it was important to get tested even if you have minor symptoms.  (Honestly, I was raised downplaying illness, so this is a very hard lesson to learn.) Apparently, people are having very few to no symptoms and still testing positive.

I do not write this to worry anyone about small symptoms!  I do just want to let you know what my experience was and to give information about the testing site and speedy test results. I also felt really confident that my cold was just a cold as I've been really careful: online grocery shopping with parking lot pick up, careful Costco shopping, walking Roxy once a day, going once to my massage therapist and church on Sunday (where we distance and wear masks when not speaking).  Nothing else: no friends outside, inside, no other shopping (all Christmas gifts bought online, locally as much as possible).

I'm currently working on the service for Sunday and researching for my sermon.  The gospel of John for this Sunday is lovely: Jesus 'finds' Phillip in Galilee, calls him to follow, Phillip 'finds' Nathanel, and Nathanel utters that iconic phrase "can anything good come out of Nazareth?".  Good is coming out all the time, even during Covid. Staying safe and staying home has been working for me and when we meet for Broadview and Coffee Time, I hear folks say that staying home has been working for them.

So, let's start a conversation about what good is coming out of Covid for you?  I'll start!  (Besides my negative covid test, more good has happened!) This morning, my teens both had gym class (which is online), and both had to go for a walk.  THEY WENT TOGETHER AND WITH ROXY! This may seem like a really small thing, but they have rarely gone for a walk since entering the teen years and it made this Mommie's heart so happy!  Of course, I also made some bread and buns this morning, which is making everyone in my house happy right now!

**Reminders for this week:**

Broadview Reading Club meet tomorrow - **TUESDAY**January 12th 1 - 3pm - We will be discussing page 20 and pages 41- 46. One of the articles is available online - here is the link: <https://broadview.org/lost-voices-hagia-sophia/>. If you don't have the magazine, but would like to start a subscription, please contact Kirsten. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89093844185>

**THURSDAY**- Coffee Time - 1:30 - 3pm - Bring your own coffee or tea, conversation abounds! All welcome! Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8925057455>

**FRIDAY**NIGHT (January 15th) - TRIVIA NIGHT! 7 - 9 pm - Our monthly trivia night: learn what you can about Canada, and, of course, your fellow trivia buffs!  Zoom link here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82250633588>

Blessings, all, I hope you have a light-filled week,

Jenni