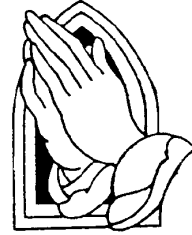




## Prayer Reflection in Time of Uncertainty

God of all knowing,  
Things are moving so fast,  
Everything I hold dear is changing,  
Disappearing,  
Being set aside.  
We live in a time of short-term memory  
and instant gratification.



I know the church is bigger than the bricks and mortar  
and beloved statues of my own house of worship.  
But this is my house.  
It is the place my faith was shaped.  
It is the keeper of my memories.  
It is the table of communion and community.  
It is the circle where our stories are told again and again.  
The stories of our ancestors in faith ...

The ones who met God on mountains and in deserts.  
Who lived in exile.  
Who left their boats and families.  
Who gathered in rented rooms and at the shores of the sea.  
All done in faith, believed yet unseen, committed but not understood.  
They too lived amid uncertainty.  
They too felt fear and anger  
and wondered whether they were forgotten, abandoned.  
And yet they persevered over centuries, eons.

We are called to persevere, too.  
If we are truly Christian,  
then our mission is not about place, but people.  
Like our ancestors, we may need to be church in new ways ...  
Gathered on mountainsides or at sea shores ...  
Or at the very least in houses not our own.  
We may need to open our arms and our hearts ...  
To welcome new people into our community,  
to embrace the gifts and perspectives they will bring.  
We may need to open the doors of community wherever that may be.