## We Win! Pastor Mark Willig Friends in Christ Lutheran Church, Morris

Jerod texted me, "Remember God is still in control, not corona virus."

Indeed! And the very important point is that when we are not in control, and when we are very uncertain about what the next days, weeks, and months will bring; there is still someone who holds the future in His hands. He is the Lamb of God.

He gave a promise, "and behold, I am with you to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20) That means we are not alone. And we are with someone who has already charted out the course. (It is like an unfailing GPS that, unlike one of our older ones wanted us to park the car in the river we were driving along.)

The path might go through strange and unfamiliar times, but we know our Friend Jesus knows the way and is able to bring us through. It's like the Bible bookmark that says: "I read the last chapter -- God wins."

There is a picture in the Book of Revelation. In Chapter 5 we hear, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that He can open the scroll and its seven seals." This is a picture of Jesus opening up the glorious future for His Church, that is, for each one of His people. He knows the future because He is God, He sees it already, and He is able to bring us safely there. He has conquered, because He is the incarnate Christ, He was born to be one of us and He has mingled together His future and our future. And with that very human body He has conquered, by taking and sharing the dying that was coming our way; and then on the third day bringing eternal life into the human flesh He shares with us. He makes His future mine.

So, yes, I have read the last chapter -- God wins, so I win, and you win.