

RE: St. John's response to the recent CDC announcement

Fellow Disciples,

With proper safety measures in place, St. John's returned to indoor worship in March for the first time in nearly a year. In returning, our top priority, then and still, is the safety of you and our amazing worship and office staff.

As new data and guidelines come out, the Transition Team and Staff continue to assess, adapt, and implement potential changes. That said, we continue to safely "ease" back into our familiar worship practices and give you options so you may enjoy worship at your comfort level.

Two weeks ago, the 8:30 indoor service was given the choice to sing the Postlude (masks on) together. Those who preferred not to sing indoors had the opportunity to exit prior to singing.

This past week at the 8:30 and 10:15 services, the congregation had the choice to receive communion at the rail. The little individual communion "coffee creamer shaped" kits were available for those who wished to commune via that method.

With the recent CDC mask guideline changes, the Transition Team and St. John's Staff met once again to map out St. John's response and next steps.

Beginning this **Sunday, May 23:**

8:30 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE

Masks

The wearing of a masks or other face coverings will be optional for those who are vaccinated, but still recommended.

A mask/face covering is recommended for those who are not fully vaccinated. Additionally, per the CDC, if you have a condition or are taking medications that weaken your immune system, you may NOT be fully protected, even if you are fully vaccinated and necessary precautions are still recommended (i.e. wearing a mask).

Singing

We will continue to sing the Postlude hymn together as a congregation (mask optional, see above). Those who prefer not to sign will have the opportunity to exit before singing begins.

Communion

We will continue to offer communion options of being served at the rail or communing at your seat using the individual communion "coffee creamer shaped" kits.

10:15 AM INTERACTIVE FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE

This Sunday is the final indoor worship before moving outdoors for the summer and the last Interactive Family Worship of the season. Thank you to Kenn and the band for the joyous services and to Joanna and Stephanie for your creativity in providing the children and families an opportunity to worship interactively.

Masks

Mask/face coverings will be required for the final week of indoor worship.

Communion

We will continue to offer communion options of being served at the rail or communing at your seat using the individual communion “coffee creamer shaped” kits.

SUNDAY, MAY 30 (MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND)

There will be only one service at 9:00 a.m. This service will follow the guidelines laid out in the 8:30 a.m. language list above.

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

There will be only one service at 9:00 a.m., outdoors in the circle drive. Masks will be optional for the outdoor services.

Following the service, we will begin our Annual Meeting at 10:30 a.m. outside in the circle drive.

GROUPS (Bible/book study, quilters, memorial celebrations, etc.) USING THE CHURCH.

Masks

The wearing of a masks or other face coverings will be optional for those who are vaccinated.

A mask/face covering is recommended for those who are not fully vaccinated. Additionally, per the CDC, if you have a condition or are taking medications that weaken your immune system, you may NOT be fully protected, even if you are fully vaccinated, so necessary precautions are still recommended (i.e. wearing a mask).

Food

We Lutherans enjoy having food when gathering, with that, food is now allowed when gathering indoors.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

St. John's will have office hours from 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Monday – Thursday.

Thank you to the Transition Team, Staff, and Worship Team for your leadership over the past 14 months and thank you to you for your prayers and support as we work our way back to “normal.”

Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

Praying for peace and good health to all,
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