



Dear St. John's Family,

June 24, 2020

The time has arrived! After more than 3 months of physical distancing and on-line worship, we are now in a place to begin our re-entry back into the church building. We, along with your vestry and staff, have been hard at work, prayerfully discerning our next steps, and we are grateful for their faithful ministry during this time. We hope this correspondence clarifies many of your questions and concerns.

As much as it pains us, this global pandemic is not over. If you have an underlying medical condition or are in one of the more vulnerable categories, we invite you to consider staying home. Re-entry is going to be a slow and deliberate process. We will re-enter in stages and not all at once. For those choosing to stay home we will continue to live-stream our services, as well as provide formation and fellowship opportunities online. You will not be forgotten and will remain a vital part of our community. If you are planning on remaining home for the foreseeable future, we would love to hear from you. Please let us know by contacting the church office.

For those desiring to return to worship, please be aware that our services will look and feel different. To maintain the safety of those participating in worship, masks will be required. If you are unable to wear a mask due to a medical condition, we ask that for your health and for the health of others you delay your return until these restrictions are lifted. Masks will be available at the church for those who do not have one or who forget to bring theirs. We will continue using the service of Ante-Communion without congregational singing at each of our services. Ushers will play a vital role in maintaining the physical distancing guidelines and cleaning teams will ensure the space is safe for each of our services.

Due to the size of our congregation, we will be using SignUpGenius for our Sunday services at 8:00AM and 10:15AM. A link to access SignUpGenius will be sent out via email the week prior to our services. If signing up electronically is not possible, you may call the church office to reserve your space. There will be a limited number of spaces available. When the sanctuary is at capacity, under these guidelines, the parish hall will serve as overflow seating.

We will begin this process of re-entry on **Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>**. In addition to Sunday services, our Wednesday Healing service will resume on **Wednesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>**. We strongly encourage you to consider whether the Wednesday service is an option for you. The service will be held in the church.

We will continue to monitor the number of cases in our community and will adjust accordingly. The brochure included with this letter details each of the phases. In the event we must revert back to the red phase, the brochure will have the details you need to know. If this year has taught us anything, it is the value of being flexible! Like so many of you, we long for the Holy Eucharist and singing and for worship to include everything that we love. When it is safe to include those aspects of worship it will be a glorious day, indeed. Until then our hearts remain full for the opportunities we do have to worship and learn and grow during this season of our lives. If you have any questions regarding our re-entry plan, please do not hesitate to reach out. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you soon.

God's peace,

*Amanda + a [Signature]*

**GROW IN GOD, ACT IN SERVICE, WITNESS IN LOVE**

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