## St. John's Lutheran Church and School covid Policy

June 16, 2021; Updated September 21, 2021

Early in 2020, St. John's rightly took the initiative to protect worshipers from the covid 19 virus with a number of rules and restrictions. With what we know now, it is time to lift these initiatives and shift the responsibility for health safety from the church back to the individual. We want to do everything possible to accommodate all worshipers and return to a normal worship experience as soon as possible.

- St. John's will not ask the vaccination status of those who come to worship or to serve.
- There are no capacity limits for worship services. For those attending online, registration is requested.
- Hand sanitizers are available.
- Wearing of masks is optional. Children may or may not wear a mask it is their parents' decision.
- A seating area [the leftmost pews as identified by a sign] will be reserved for those who prefer
  to social distance. Those sitting in this area are requested to wear a mask in consideration for
  others in that area.
- Prepackaged Communion elements are available in addition to the bread, individual cups and common cup administered by the officiants.

In summary, St. John's has returned responsibility to the individual for his or her health safety decisions and that of their household. Worship has essentially returned to normal with the addition of a reserved seating accommodation for those who wish to socially distance.