

## Updated Health Guidelines for In-person Worship

Following the state of California and the advice from the diocesan Public Health Task Force, the bishop is lifting many COVID restrictions.

- Vaccinated people are no longer required to wear masks or maintain social distance for worship.
- Vaccinated people may now join in congregational singing.
- Participants in the following church ministries should be vaccinated:
  - Anyone celebrating or distributing communion.
  - Anyone singing in a choir or leading sung music in worship.
  - Anyone leading children/youth ministries for those under age 12.
  - Anyone visiting a home, hospital, or group care setting as part of a pastoral care ministry or serving as a Eucharistic visitor.
- Communion wine may be distributed in individual containers, or by having the priest intinct all wafers and drop them in worshipers' hands. Sipping from the common cup, or having individual worshipers intinct, is still not allowed.
- Since children under age 12 have not had the opportunity to be vaccinated, all children's ministries should be conducted with masks, following 3-foot distancing between children (the same requirements schools follow).
- Refreshments may be served at coffee hour, indoors or outdoors, but they should not be served buffet-style with shared implements. Refreshments should be individually wrapped, or served by a server who is the only one to touch the serving implements.
- Unvaccinated people, including children under age 12, are expected to wear masks.

If you have not been vaccinated, you are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated, to help prevent the further spread of the coronavirus, including the more dangerous Delta variant.