

ST. JOHN'S WEST BEND

May 26th, 2020

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we shared last week, we are excited to open again for worship this coming weekend beginning on Saturday, May 30th. following our usual worship schedule. However, recognizing that COVID-19 is still a threat, we wanted to share with you some precautions that we at St. John's are taking and that we are asking you to take as you prepare to attend worship.

First, if you are ill in any way or have been ill in the last week, please worship using our online resources to avoid spreading any illness to your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Second, when you arrive to church, please maintain six feet of distance from those who are not a part of your household and enter only through the main entrance. **Please note that a household or "family unit" is anyone who lives with you.**

Third, you are strongly encouraged to wear a mask to worship for the sake of your neighbor.

Fourth, we will be employing a social distancing seating plan in the sanctuary Each household will be seated in a pew on one end. An usher will guide you to an appropriate seat. In addition, we will only be able to seat 54 family units in the sanctuary for worship. Worshippers who typically worship at 9:30 or 11 am on Sunday are strongly urged to worship at 8 am Sunday or on Saturday or Wednesday night. It is not our intent to turn anyone away, but we reserve the right to do so in order to maintain appropriate capacity and social distancing procedures.

Finally, please note that there will not be a greeting or a passing of the peace and that any offering can be placed in the collection box in the narthex.

In addition to these precautions, we will be sanitizing the sanctuary and all high contact surfaces after each worship service.

Regarding the Lord's Supper, we will not be celebrating the Lord's Supper in the sanctuary in June, but will celebrate "in-vehicle" communion on June 7th just as we did in May.

These precautions have been developed under the CDC and Washington-Ozaukee County guidelines for faith communities so that we might gather for worship in a responsible manner.

We continue to give thanks to God for being able to gather together once again, and ask that those who do gather would follow these guidelines out of care and concern for fellow members of the body of Christ.

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Connecting, Caring and Sharing in Christ

We also recognize that there are many who have concerns about large gathering, have underlying health conditions, or are in what medical professionals would deem an “at-risk” category and thus would prefer not to attend worship in person at this time. The St. John’s worship team will continue to provide online worship during this time so that God’s people might be fed with His word and His promises.

Please continue to pray for our pastors, staff and leaders here at St. John’s as they see to the work of the church and for all who suffer from this pandemic, trusting that our Lord hears our prayers and acts upon them in His good and gracious will.

In Christ,

The Unified Leaders of St. John’s