



## **COVID-19 Guidelines for Worship as of July 21, 2020**

Please refer to previously published Phase 2 Documents for details of procedures for in-person worship, mask wearing, social distancing, and sanitation. The following is an outline for your convenience. In short, this week's Governor's briefing prompts return to indoor in-person worship under the protocols previously disseminated by the Bishop.

### **Church Services**

- In-Person worship indoors and outdoors are allowed and must follow all previously published guidelines for mask-wearing, social distancing, and sanitation.
- Congregations must provide online worship or refer members to the Bishop's virtual worship services in order to serve those in high-risk groups.
- Clergy, in consultation with lay leaders, may opt to offer only virtual worship, whether offered by the local clergy or by the Bishop.
- Clergy, in consultation with lay leaders, may opt to offer outdoor worship only.
- There must be a minimum of six feet between every person (with the exception of family members who live in the same household) at every in-person worship gathering.
- Morning Prayer creates less opportunity for person-to-person infection, and therefore it may be used as your principal Sunday worship service. However, Holy Eucharist is still authorized.
- If Holy Eucharist is celebrated:
  - Communion will be in one kind.
  - Only the celebrant may drink from the chalice.
    - Intinction is not allowed.
  - Communicants must come forward one-at-a-time, or in family groups.
  - Clergy should place the host into communicant's hands without touching hands.
  - No physical touching during the passing of The Peace.
- Masks are mandated for everyone in attendance at any in-person worship service.
- Singing is prohibited at all in-person worship services.

- High risk individuals, e.g., those older than age 60, those with compromised immune systems, compromised lung and/or heart function, or with other known risk factors, should be encouraged to worship online.
- Before and during indoor and outdoor in-person worship services, a person must be appointed to remind people of physical distancing guidelines and to ensure that you do not exceed the maximum number of people who can be physically distanced.
- If someone in attendance contracts COVID-19 within 14 days of attendance, contact the Diocese immediately.
  - The clergy person who administered Communion must be tested and quarantined.
  - Worshipers in attendance must be notified of a possible exposure.
- If you are uncertain about anything, call, text, or email the Bishop or Canon Bedingfield.