

St. Bede's Updated Mask Policy and Worship Protocols

(updated and approved September 19, 2022)

Please be familiar with the following updates to our existing pandemic safety protocols and guidelines to ensure the best experience for the times that we gather for worship:

- For your safety and the safety of those around you, **we strongly suggest that those attending in-person worship be fully vaccinated and boosted.**
- **Masking is a matter of personal choice *for all who are up-to-date with recommended COVID-19 vaccinations*** (this means that folks are vaccinated and boosted as is age and medically appropriate). **Masking will continue to be required for the unvaccinated or those who are not up-to-date with the recommended vaccination schedule from the CDC.** We will not be checking vaccination status – we expect each person to be responsible to these guidelines. It is always appropriate to wear a mask out of your own personal need or preference – just as with any medical device such as a brace or a bandage. Some may choose to continue wearing masks for their own sake and some may continue to wear a mask for the benefit of others. Our goal will be to honor folks' personal choice in this matter out of love for all in our community. If needed, surgical masks are available in the Commons or from the greeters.
- We will **continue the practice of good ventilation** at St. Bede's. This means we will continue to leave open the exterior doors in the Commons and in the Nave, to encourage the flow of clean, fresh air. This will be done regardless of the outside temperature. This could mean that the interior of the church building could be cold. On cold days, please bundle up!
- Fellowship before and after worship is **safer conducted outside**, and we will continue to provide options for people to congregate outside.
- If you are sick or in any way concerned for your health and safety, we encourage you to worship from home. **Please remember that will be streaming worship live on the [St. Bede's YouTube Channel](#) every Sunday.**
- If you have been sick or exposed to COVID-19, please follow the latest [CDC guidance](#) about isolating, quarantining, and masking. If you develop symptoms of COVID or test positive after attending worship, please let us know. We will keep your identity anonymous. Thank you.

We are thankful for your understanding and care for our community.