

Resuming Indoor Worship

September 21, 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

At our September 20 meeting, St. Michael's Church Council discussed protocols regarding moving back indoors for worship. **Our first indoor worship service this autumn will be on Sunday, October 3 at 10:00 a.m.** Here are some specifics regarding our indoor services:

- **For the safety of all of us and being mindful of the Delta variant and other variants, along with breakthrough COVID-19 cases in Connecticut, the wearing of masks at indoor services will be required.**
- **Masks will be required for all other indoor activities.**
- **The congregation can sing the hymns while masked. Hymnals will return to the pews. The choir can also sing while masked and physically distanced.**
- To safeguard your health and the health of our worship leaders and to ensure the cleanest air possible, Guardian Angel air purifiers with HEPA filters and UV lighting will once again be utilized.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be on-site. Please apply hand sanitizer upon entry.
- To maintain appropriate physical distancing, every other pew will be open for seating. Members of the same household may sit together in the same pew.
- The service will be a service of Holy Communion, and the Assisting Minister and I will commune worshipers where you are seated.
- Bulletins will still be sent electronically for viewing on phones, and paper copies will be available on a table in the narthex.
- An offering plate will be on the same table in the narthex for you to give your gift as you arrive.
- Face coverings and small cups will be available in case you forgot to bring yours.
- Our building will be thoroughly cleaned on Monday afternoons.
- I will continue to record the remote services, and Alla will continue to provide the music. I will post the remote service each Sunday on St. Michael's Facebook page for those who are unable to attend our indoor services.
- Persons shall not attend if you are feeling unwell, have tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days, have recently been in contact with someone with symptoms or has tested positive, or have recently returned from travel to a high-risk state.

I understand that this continues to be a bit of a change from worship as we knew it pre-COVID-19, and I thank you in advance for your ongoing patience and understanding during this next transitional phase of our worship life together. I look forward with hope to resuming indoor in-person worship with you, and with joy to continue worshipping with you on-line. Stay safe and well.

God's peace,

Pastor Derrick Fallon