



Good Samaritan

ANGLICAN CHURCH

Regathering the Church as COVID-19 Slows

Phase 3b (beginning Monday, May 24)

- Definition of Vaccination Status
 - According to the [CDC](#), “People are considered fully vaccinated:
 - 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
 - 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen vaccine
 - If you don’t meet these requirements, regardless of your age, you are NOT fully vaccinated. [Keep taking all precautions](#) until you are fully vaccinated.”
 - We will not ask anyone about their vaccination status, but we respectfully request that you follow the guidelines that pertain to unvaccinated individuals if you are not fully vaccinated. People are now expected to assume personal responsibility for their own health and the health of others. But please remember that our never-ending mandate is to love our neighbors and not just please ourselves.
- Please remain at home if you:
 - Have any symptoms of sickness.
 - Are unvaccinated and have been exposed to the coronavirus. Please follow the [CDC recommendations](#) for the length of your quarantine before returning to church.
- Masks and Social Distancing
 - **For those who are fully vaccinated, mask-wearing and social distancing are now optional. Please continue to maintain social distance from those who want or need to continue the practice.** Assume that people wearing masks would also prefer to remain 6 ft. from those who are not in their household unless they say otherwise.
 - **For those who are not vaccinated, we respectfully request that you continue to wear a mask and practice social distancing, both for your own safety and for the safety of other unvaccinated people around you**(especially children and those who are unable to be vaccinated for medical reasons). We ask that you honor this

request, but we will not ask anyone about their vaccination status. If this request is an issue for you, please pray about it and feel free to speak to your clergy.

- **Please be respectful of the choices of others.**
- Small Gatherings (groups and meetings)
 - There will no longer be limits on the capacity of various meeting spaces on the church campus.
 - When considering meeting spaces, please allow enough space for those who wish to continue social distancing to do so.
 - People may resume eating together at small gatherings, but please be considerate of the special needs of those who are not vaccinated (see below under “Hospitality”).
- Pastoral Care
 - Pastoral visits may resume as long as the pastoral visitor has been fully vaccinated.
 - Before the visit, the pastoral caregiver should ask whether the person being visited would like masks to be worn and social distance to be kept. The pastoral visitor should also offer to conduct the visit outside.
 - Communion may be shared in a home in the form of bread only (or bread with a dried drop of consecrated wine).
 - The pastoral visitor should either wash or sanitize his or her hands immediately before giving communion to the person being visited.
- Sunday Worship
 - There will no longer be a limit on worship capacity.
 - The ropes may be removed from the Gospel (left) side of the church and those who have been fully vaccinated may sit closer together
 - **Ropes shall remain over alternating pews on the epistle (right) side and this shall be considered a “safer zone” where masking and social distancing are required.**
 - Physical contact (such as elbow bumps and handshakes) may resume, but **please be respectful of individuals who continue to prefer no physical contact.**
 - Bibles and Prayerbooks may be placed in the pew racks.
 - The ministry of crucifers may resume.
 - As long as all the people on the music platform are fully vaccinated, musicians may stand closer together and masks will not be required while on the platform.
 - Communion will continue to be either in the form of bread-only or bread with a dried drop of wine.
 - During the celebration of communion:
 - The Celebrant should sanitize his or her hands immediately before the Sursum Corda.
 - The Celebrant should wear a mask until after the distribution of communion.
 - Only the Celebrant should be near the altar during the Eucharistic Prayer, any others should stay at least 6 feet away from the altar.
 - During the distribution of communion:

- Masks are optional for vaccinated individuals as they come forward to receive communion.
 - 6 ft. of distance should be kept between households while standing in the aisles as they approach the Celebrant to receive communion. This applies to both people who are vaccinated and those who are not vaccinated.
 - The celebrant shall place the host in the hand of each communicant without making contact with the communicant.
 - Communicants should continue the practice of standing to receive the host instead of kneeling at the altar rail.
 - Communicants should return to their seats before consuming the communion elements.
- After the dismissal:
 - Those who desire may use the side exits instead of the Narthex doors.
 - Those who desire may greet the celebrant with a handshake, fist bump, or elbow bump. Please extend your hand or elbow if you would like to be greeted in this way. At a minimum, the Celebrant will wash or sanitize his or her hands before greeting people and after all have been greeted.
- Drive through communion may continue to be offered as an option as needed. Please check the church calendar for availability.
- Hospitality
 - Food and non-alcoholic drinks may be served as appropriate, but please be considerate of the special needs of those who are not vaccinated.
 - Eating outside is a safer alternative (the picnic pavilion and the breezeway between the church and the parish hall are both good options).
 - If possible, find ways to avoid the use of common serving utensils, either through pre-packaged food or by having one person with clean hands (and perhaps a mask) serve the food for all of the others.
 - A few tables could be designated in an indoor space for households who wish to maintain social distance.
 - Please do not pressure anyone to consume food or be offended by those who choose to bring their own food.