

Dear Church Family,

As our region moves from a red status to a yellow status in the coming days, we are also looking toward a limited return to holding worship services at the church building. I'm extremely excited about the possibility of seeing each other again, but I must stress that it is very important that we take all steps possible to make this process as safe as possible.

I also have to say that this will require a great deal of flexibility, patience and understanding as we go along. For instance, in the first phase, physical gatherings in the sanctuary will be limited to 25 people. While there will be some provisions for overflow to other areas of the church, there is a possibility that the 26th person to arrive after we reach the maximum might have to stop back for the next service. As we learn what worked and what didn't we'll make changes for future services.

In all decision making, we would encourage you to continue to follow the guidelines of the CDC and state and local recommendations around safety. If you are feeling unwell or have reason to believe that you may have been exposed to the virus, please stay home. If you are in the higher risk groups (age or other health conditions), please do not feel pressed to come before you are ready. Our services each week will continue to be streamed online and we will be glad to continue to mail CDs and DVDs to all who wish to receive them. If we've learned anything over the last several weeks, we know that whether we are physically gathered or scattered, we are still one body in Christ Jesus!

Peace

Pastor John, Pastor Pat & the re-opening team

Plan for Re-Starting In-Person worship

We plan to have 2 services, the first will be held in the sanctuary at 9:00am and will also be live streamed to Facebook and posted to YouTube. The second will be, weather permitting, held outside at 10:30am on the church lawn.

Things to know if you're planning to come to the first service (9:00am):

- We have a top limit of 25 people per space in the church. When the sanctuary is filled, those who wish will be able to go down to the social room and watch a live feed together. After both spaces are filled, we will have to ask people to return for the next service.
- Please use the doors leading into the rear of the narthex. They will be propped open or someone will be there to open them for you to avoid touching of handles.
- Everyone attending worship in an indoor space will need to wear a well-fitting mask.
 - While we would encourage you to bring your own, disposable masks will be on hand for anyone who needs one.
 - Pastors will maintain safe distances and remove their mask while speaking so that their words aren't muffled.
 - Soloists will be allowed to remove their masks long enough to sing (again, keeping a safe distance to make up for the absence of a mask)
- Pews will be roped off in the sanctuary. Of course, families may sit together, but we will have areas spaced out to provide safe distances. There will be people on hand to help direct you as you arrive.
- Unfortunately, we will not be able to offer childcare in the nursery. Children are definitely welcome, but will have to stay with their families.
- We will not be passing offering plates or communion elements. Instead, there will be a basket as you enter/leave to collect an offering. The next bullet describes communion.
- We do plan to have communion at this service. We are asking each family to bring bread and juice to hold up as we bless the elements. We will have some individual juice and wafer packs on hand for anyone who needs them. We may not have the gluten free variety in time for this Sunday's service (it is ordered for future services).
- We will be using the TV screens for the liturgy. Please feel free to use your tablet or phone to download a copy if you prefer or print a copy of the service from our website (<http://www.stpaulsfleetwood.org/ChurchBulletin/>). A limited number of printed copies will be available for those without access to the internet. Rest assured that we will make sure that everyone can join in!
- Congregational singing is not possible during the yellow phase as the act of singing increases the amount of air leaving our lungs and, in turn, increases the risk of spreading virus. Instead, we will have one or more soloists singing each of the hymns from a safe distance.
- Windows will be open and the HVAC fans will be running throughout the service to provide maximum airflow.
- Bathrooms will be available in the narthex. We will have extra precautions in places such as conveniently placed paper towels and trash cans so that you don't have to touch

handles/faucets with bare hands. Sanitizer will also be located outside of each bathroom so that you can have an added layer of protection.

Things to know if you're planning to come to the second service (10:30am):

- We will be holding the service on the church lawn. Please plan appropriately by bringing lawn chairs / blankets / sunscreen / hats.
- A few cars could be parked close to the grass if you would like to listen from your car. Please use other parking spots if you plan to sit on the lawn.
- We will have speakers set up
- Well-fitting masks are strongly encouraged, but not absolutely required as long as safe distances are maintained.
 - While we would encourage you to bring your own, disposable masks will be on hand for anyone who needs one.
 - Pastors will maintain safe distances and remove their mask while speaking so that their words aren't muffled.
 - Soloists will be allowed to remove their masks long enough to sing (again, keeping a safe distance to make up for the absence of a mask)
- Spots to sit as individuals or families will be spaced out. There will be people on hand to help direct you as you arrive.
- Unfortunately, we will not be able to offer childcare in the nursery. Children are definitely welcome, but will have to stay with their families.
- We will not be passing offering plates or communion elements. Instead, there will be a basket as you arrive/leave to collect an offering. The next bullet describes communion.
- We do plan to have communion at this service. We are asking each family to bring bread and juice to hold up as we bless the elements. We will have some individual juice and wafer packs on hand for anyone who needs them. We may not have the gluten free variety in time for this Sunday's service (it is ordered for future services).
- Please feel free to use your tablet or phone to download a copy of the service from our website (<http://www.stpaulsfleetwood.org>). A limited number of printed copies will be available for those without access to the internet. Rest assured that we will make sure that everyone can join in!
- Congregational singing is not possible during the yellow phase, even outside, as the act of singing increases the amount of air leaving our lungs and, in turn, increases the risk of spreading virus. Instead, we will have one or more soloists singing each of the hymns from a safe distance.
- Bathrooms will be available through the doors closest to the church office. We will have extra precautions in place such as conveniently placed paper towels and trash cans so that you don't have to touch handles/faucets with bare hands. Sanitizer will also be located outside of each bathroom so that you can have an added layer of protection.

