

August 26, 2020

Greetings Trinity,

As many will have heard our Diocese announced that **churches may open for worship on Sunday September 13**, as long as they meet the re-opening guidelines that the Diocese has provided.

We have been waiting for this day for a long time. This letter will provide you with all the details of what we are doing, how to register for in-person worship (as we have a limited capacity with social distancing) and what to expect if and when you do come. No one should feel obligated to attend in-person worship and online worship will continue to be offered.

Your safety, and the safety of all is our top priority. The Diocesan guidelines have been prepared in consultation with Provincial Health Authorities. We have used these guidelines in our plan to reopen.

#### **What is Trinity doing to help keep you safe?**

- Arranging for cleaning between every worship service with particular attention to high touch areas like pews, doors, and light switches
- Providing hand sanitizer at various places throughout the building, which you are encouraged to use
- Removing books from the pews, and much of the furniture in the Upper Room, to limit touch points
- Closing rooms that are not in use or to be used
- Limiting worship attendance to a maximum of 25 people (not including Rev. Dana, Margaret or Stewart our broadcast coordinator)
- Creating a social distancing seating plan
- Maintaining contact tracing lists of everyone who enters Trinity, with contact information, time and date, in case that is required. This information is required to be stored in a secure location for 36 months
- No serving or sharing of food or beverages
- Continuing to offer online worship, although it will look different
- The fans and air conditioning cannot be used during the service

#### **What you Need to Know if you are coming in person**

- 1) Everyone is required to wear a mask or face cover (NOT a face shield) inside the building. If you have a medical reason for not wearing a mask we ask that you have a conversation with Rev. Dana about safe alternatives.
- 2) You need to Register if you are planning to attend worship in person: Click on or go to this link <https://reopen.church/r/iRudYx1r>  
If you do not have access to a computer or require assistance, please call Margaret 905-775-7289.  
You will see the list of services and spots available for each. We are asking that you **register for only 1 of the 3 services listed**. Hopefully everyone wanting to attend in

person is able to do so within the first 3 weeks. Once we have an idea of how many people are attending we will assess the interval of rotation and adjust appropriately. We will keep you updated and let you know when you can register for future services.

- 3) **We ask you to self-screen.** DO NOT COME, if you feel ill, have experienced any symptoms, been in contact with someone who has been diagnosed or is suspected of having COVID-19 or if you have travelled outside the country in the last 14 days.
- 4) Entry is by the **North Doors on James Street only.** Upon entering the building please wear your mask, and sanitize your hands. Please **plan to arrive early**, as check-in will begin at 9:40 am, and will close at 10 a.m. Please lineup down the hall, maintaining social distancing while you wait to be checked-in at the desk immediately inside the Upper Room. One of the wardens or deputy warden will be at the check-in desk to welcome you, check your name(s) off the registered list. In the case of a visitor or non-registered person, if there is available space, their contact information will be recorded and included with the daily log for contact tracing.
- 5) The collection plate will also be on the check-in table for you to leave your offering since we cannot pass the plate during the service.
- 6) Once you are checked in, a sidesperson will assist you by offering you a bulletin and seating you. Seating will be primarily front to back, with some consideration to size of group (single, couple or family). Please take your bulletin home or place it into the labelled recycling bin after the service.
- 7) Once you are seated, you are asked to remain there. Please do not walk around. **The bathroom is only available for emergency situations.** If you must use it, you are asked to use hand sanitizer before entering, and wipe down the toilet handle, taps, and door handle with the wipes provided and sanitize your hands before re-entering the church.
- 8) There are **no books allowed**, so the service will be projected on the screen and there will be a couple of one-time-use service booklets available if you cannot see the screen. There will be **no singing**. We have included some instrumental music but **ask you not to sing along**. All responses during the service should be said quietly.
- 9) The service has been shortened to minimize movement, including during the peace. The biggest change is that **communion will be administered after the final blessing, in the Upper Room as you are leaving.** Once Rev. Dana is ready, you will proceed as directed by the sidesperson, starting from the back into the Upper Room. You will sanitize your hands and pause 6 ft from Rev. Dana while she says the words of administration, then you will come forward and she will place the wafer in your hands. Once you have received your wafer, you are to step to the marked location beside the check-in desk, and facing the cross in the corner, remove your mask, consume your wafer, replace your mask, and then sanitize your hands again and proceed up the hall and out the door.

- 10) There are no prayers for healing or anointing at this time. If you wish special prayers please contact Rev. Dana to make arrangements.
- 11) When you leave, you are asked not to congregate at or near the door. While you may visit outside, we recommend continuing to wear your mask as appropriate and maintaining social distancing.
- 12) The warden or deputy warden who checked you in will be available to address any questions or concerns you may have.

**Children:**

As children under 10 must remain with their parents we are suspending Sunday School at this time. Parents are asked to bring their own books, toys and snacks. There are bags with new crayons and colouring, which are to be taken home (they cannot be returned to us) and can be brought back to use the next time you are present.

We realize that this is a great deal of information to take in. If you have any questions you are encouraged to reach out to the church either by phone 905-775-2200 or you can email Rev. Dana [revdanadickson@yahoo.ca](mailto:revdanadickson@yahoo.ca)

God bless,

The Leadership Team at Trinity Anglican Church.