

Hybrid Worship at St. Luke's: July 2021

Beginning **Sunday, July 4, 2021** we are offering our regular **10 am worship service** in a hybrid format. This means that worshipers will have the option to participate in person in the sanctuary, on Zoom, by phone, and on Facebook Live.

What to expect if you come in person:

Those attending in person are required to mask, regardless of vaccination status. We will no longer require social distancing, however we ask that you refrain from making physical contact (i.e. hugs and handshakes) with those outside your household, including during the passing of the peace. The service will be shortened slightly to reduce the total length of time we are together. Music will be a combination of live instrumental pieces provided by Dr. Ildar Khannanov and recorded music sung by our virtual choir. Indoor singing will not be permitted in this initial phase, but you are encouraged to hum along or mouth the words. Communion will continue to be offered as wafers only while in the Yellow Phase.

There will be an outdoor Hospitality Hour following the service, with prepackaged food and drink provided.

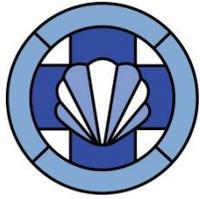
Please read the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland's "Covenant for Regathering with Less Mitigation" before attending in person. (See below.)

What to expect if you attend on Zoom, by phone, or through Facebook Live:

The goal of the Worship Planning Team is to continue enabling those who attend worship remotely to be fully included in the service as much as possible. For the time being, those joining on Zoom and by phone will be viewing/hearing the Facebook Live video together in a "watch party" format. They will be able to interact with each other, but not with those who are in the sanctuary. The text of the worship service will be available to download from our website as a seasonal worship booklet and weekly insert. We are exploring a range of technological options to enable interaction between those in the sanctuary and those online, and we expect our setup to evolve over the coming weeks. We welcome feedback at each stage of this process.

What about other forms of gathering?

- Masks are still required of everyone when entering the building. If you are in a space with only a few people, all of whom are vaccinated and comfortable removing masks, then you may remove your masks.
- Small groups, such as committees, are welcome to resume gathering in person some or all of the time, with the consensus of the members. Whether gathering in person or on Zoom, **please make sure to check the calendar for space/Zoom availability and schedule your meeting with Dalyn Huntley in the Church Office.**
- Thursday evening Zoom Social Hour is taking a summer break in July and August, then will reassess the desire for such a gathering in the fall.
- Under diocesan Yellow Phase Guidelines, outside groups using the space are allowed to set their own guidelines in conversation with the Rector, as long as they continue to mask in common areas where they may encounter other people. Pastor Diana is reaching out to each group to work out what is best for them on a case-by-case basis.



St. Luke's
Eastport



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE
OF MARYLAND

Yellow Phase: Covenant for Regathering with Less Mitigation

In response to the current COVID-19 pandemic, I promise, with God's help and to the best of my ability, to abide by the guidelines of the Diocese of Maryland for participation in the life of my congregation according to the regathering phase in which my congregation is authorized to carry out its mission and ministry. As new cases drop and vaccinations increase, I promise to act faithfully as I ponder gathering with those outside my household.

In fulfillment of the Baptismal Covenant (BCP p. 304-305), I will strive to:

Loving my neighbor as myself, I will...

- Continue to wear a mask or scarf over my nose and mouth and maintain social distance at all times in church buildings except in spaces and situations where a decision has been made by church leaders to allow unmasking or lessening of social distancing measures
- Only attend worship and receive communion if I am non-symptomatic for any transmittable disease that could compromise the health of another congregant
- Will abstain from attending if doing so would put me at greater risk due to my own health status

Respecting the dignity of every human being, I will...

- Make no physical contact with people beyond the members of my own household, unless invited to do so
- Maintain a six foot or more distance from other members of the congregation, unless leadership has determined to allow otherwise
- Respect any reasonable requests for distancing and masking, to ensure the safety and comfort level of others

Seek and serve Christ in all people...

- Trust and support the decisions of both my diocesan and congregational leaders
- Stay connected by telephone, video chat, or mail with others in my community who are unable or remain concerned about returning to gatherings with less restrictions
- Accommodate those who have a different perspective than mine when it comes to safely regathering with less restrictions