

Dear Members of Trinity,

We pray that the Lord has been gracious to each of you in this difficult time. Who knew that our lives would be so radically changed so quickly? Even now, we are still faced with many challenges in the days ahead. One area that most of us have missed greatly is the ability to worship together, and that is something that is beginning to open once again. We are enclosing a copy of the guidelines provided by the State of Nebraska that includes several things that need to be taken into consideration as we begin offering services at Trinity. Due to the higher number of cases in our area, we have delayed in person worship a little longer than other churches in other parts of the state. After May 5th, churches in Nebraska could offer a worship service in person with the guidelines set forth, but we felt it best to wait until the end of May. Wednesday, June 3rd is going to be our first service for those who are in the vulnerable category, and Saturday and Sunday June 6 and 7 is Trinity Sunday and seems like a good opportunity for us to celebrate this special event in the Church Year by opening the doors of Trinity to in person worship for the first time since this pandemic caused our doors to close. Please note some important things below...

Christian love always compels us to show grace to each other, but especially in the coming days. There may be some who will still feel uncomfortable in worshiping in person at this time and we should be understanding of that. We also are being asked to keep appropriate social distancing and sit only with our own family or by our self. **It is strongly, strongly encouraged but not required that we wear masks, so please out of charity, consider doing so for the benefit of your neighbor. We have masks on order but will not have them on hand until later in June, so please bring your own mask when you attend.** We are also going to have to be patient regarding our worship services and times. To allow for proper cleaning between services and to accommodate those who wish to attend, our initial plan is to offer three worship times, but with a different schedule than we are used to offering. **We will still offer a recording for those who are unable to attend because they are in the high-risk group, or do not feel comfortable attending yet.**

As noted in the attached guidelines if you are feeling sick or have been exposed to Covid-19 or are showing symptoms please refrain from worshiping until your symptoms are gone and you are medically approved to return to activities. If you are in the vulnerable category, we are planning on offering a worship time especially for that group and would ask that you attend that service designed for you. All services will follow proper guidelines and we will be using screens for the services to abide by the regulation on not sharing books or handing out bulletins. An offering basket will be available to drop offerings into. We will have the moveable wall open, so some seating is available in the Fellowship Hall if needed. Communion distribution will be pilgrim style, with individuals, couples or families coming forward to receive the elements with 6 feet distancing between households and individuals. Communion elements will be in two small cups with lids, one containing the wafer and one the wine. All communion elements will be prepared wearing a face mask and gloves. There will be a trash receptacle so you can drop the container in the trash as you leave the front area. Communion will be offered for the Saturday and Wednesday Service (see below for the worship times) on the 1st and 3rd Sunday and for the Sunday service on the 2nd and 4th Sunday. If you do not feel comfortable in taking communion, and would prefer private communion, you can contact Pastor Rob or Pastor Bill to make arrangements.

Our planned worship times:

Saturday 6:00 pm Worship Service (Like our Saturday and Sunday 8:30 am service in worship style)

Sunday 10:00 am Worship Service (Like our 11:00 am service with videos for the songs)

Wednesday 10:00 am Worship Service **Vulnerable Attendee Group Only (If you are working outside the home or are not in the higher risk group, we ask that you don't attend this service for the safety of those attending this service.)**

The first Wednesday service will begin on Wednesday, June 3rd and will follow the weekend service from the previous Sunday. The first Saturday and Sunday services will be on June 6th and 7th. This is our preliminary plan which may be altered as we try a couple weekends of services and find a need to adjust. Please be patient as we adjust to these new circumstances. Please feel free to contact your Elder or Pastor Rob or Bill with concerns and or suggestions and recommendations.

Under guidelines in place June 1, groups under 25 can begin to meet using social distancing. It is important that if you do use an area of the church, Maria knows in the church office so that proper cleaning can take place after the meeting and before any other activity takes place. Since our cleaners come on Monday and Thursday, there may be a need for those who use the church to do some cleaning after their use of the church if the cleaners won't be able to do so before the next meeting is held. We are not able to have our fellowship and treats or Sunday School and Bible class under the current guidelines but will continue to explore options in this area and are looking at VBS this summer, either in person or online, depending on guidelines at the time.

We will not be using our Worship Servants like we have in the past, as we will not be using greeters and the Elder's will be serving as ushers. If you have an interest in helping with cleaning between services, helping with the Elders or in other ways, please contact us in the church office so we can keep a list of those willing to serve at this time.

P.S. Unfortunately we recently discovered that we have been in violation of copyright law in the streaming of our 11:00 am service in the past. Until we have our own musicians performing songs in the service, we are not able to stream or record that service for public distribution as the videos contain artist and recording studio recordings and not live music, which is not legal. So the 10 am service will not be available online or streamed so we are not in violation of copyright law.

In the love of Jesus,

Pastor Rob

Pastor Bill

Trinity Board of Elders