

July 29, 2020

Dear Trinity Community,

We are writing to invite you to an outdoor in-person worship service on Sunday, August 9th at 10:00 am.

We will gather as God's people to praise God together in person, to gather strength from each other's presence, and to rejoice in our life together in community.

Although this sounds quite a bit like what we have always done, much about our worship together will be quite different, as we find our way through this time of COVID-19. Listed below are just some of the outward changes that you will notice.

Masks will be worn at all times by all attendees and social/physical distancing between household units will be in place. Responsive readings and communal singing will be limited. Communion will be available in individually sealed bags that you can pick up when you arrive. Our worship service will likely be shorter than what we have been accustomed to.

If you plan to attend, we ask that you register in advance by using this link:

<https://reopen.church/r/sSWaEyjt>

We need you to register to help us keep an accurate count of those at worship as well as provide needed information for contact tracing.

Be sure to bring a chair—there will be folks eager to assist you not only with directions about where to park your car, but also with instructions on where you can safely set up your chair.

Please see the attached list about our time together that is included with this letter. We thank you in advance for your commitment to follow these and all safety guidelines. As a faith community, we are in this together so that we can be together. Plans for future outdoor worship will be evaluated following this initial service on August 9.

We thank those who completed the worship survey which has helped us to consider the many issues before us. We understand the health risks that remain in the time of COVID-19, and we also understand the longing many feel to return to Trinity for worship in person. Of course, we'll continue to provide online worship resources and the YouTube video so that those who are unable to attend will not feel excluded from worship.

May God strengthen us for the work placed in our hands!

The COVID-19 Task Force

Brenda Aslin | Ann Dungan | Judy Flanigan | Vince Gallenti | Bob Graves | Pastor Skyle

**As a faith community, we are in this together,
so we can be together in faith and love.**

Details for Outdoor Service

Thank you for your commitment to follow these and all safety guidelines which were developed consistent with a number of resources available to us: CDC, the Governor's Office, the PA Department of Health, NIH recommendations, ELCA guidelines and results of Trinity's Worship Survey.

- Register in advance if you plan to attend <https://reopen.church/r/sSWaEyit> Because Contact Tracing is a key strategy for preventing further spread of COVID-19, Trinity's COVID-19 Task Force is implementing the following procedures:
 - In order to support the Department of Health to be thorough in their contact tracing efforts, we will ask staff members to sign in when they report to work. Worship service attendees will sign in, in advance of the service, using a church attendance app called Church.Reopen. If a Trinity staff member or worship attendee tests positive for COVID-19, he/she will be contacted by the Department of Health in order to obtain a list of close contacts they had while infectious. The person who tests positive should contact The Task Force and we will provide the relevant attendance information.
- In the event of rain, we will record a message on the church office main phone line 610-584-8411 announcing any cancellations.
- Please do not attend church if you do not feel well or are particularly at risk for the virus.
- Please wear a mask that covers your mouth and nose at all times during our time together.
- Members of the same household/'quaranteams'/individuals will maintain a physical distance of 6 feet from others at all times.
- Folks will be directing you to the appropriate areas to park in the lot.
- Bring your own chair; if you have extras, feel free to bring them for folks who may have forgotten theirs. You will be directed to a location where you can safely set up your chair.
- It will take some extra time to get our chairs set up and get settled, so plan to allow additional time in order to be ready for worship at 10.
- We will not use bulletins, but feel free to bring your Bible. You may print out the worship service at home and bring it along.
- We strongly encourage you to continue giving online or through bill pay at your bank at this time; if you do bring offerings on Sunday, there will be a box available for you to place offerings—a plate will not be passed.
- When we receive communion, it will be available in individually sealed bags.
- Please be aware that the church building, including rest rooms, will not be accessible to the congregation at this time.
- We will share the Peace of the Lord safely by not shaking hands and remaining in our seats.
- The service will be shorter than usual--about 30-40 minutes, with no coffee hour at the end of worship.
- If you're feeling uncomfortable because you see others who are not following guidelines, each of us should feel free to lovingly remind them to keep social distance of 6' and wear masks for the sake of the whole community.
- And of course, these guidelines are subject to change based on ongoing updates from public health officials.