

## Proposal for Regathering at Grace for Worship during the COVID-19 Pandemic

**Location:** The State of California has determined that Solano County is on the “Monitoring List”, which for places of worship means that we cannot gather indoors. We can gather outdoors with infection mitigation modifications. Grace Church Fairfield propose to regather for worship in our open-air courtyard. We will also continue to broadcast our 10:00 a.m. service each week online via Facebook Live and on Zoom.

### **Infection Mitigation:**

- Signage will be posted at the entrance and around the campus with relevant COVID-19 health and safety information. We will continue to monitor the guidelines from the CDC, the State of California, Solano County and the Diocese of Northern California.
- Transmission Prevention and Disinfection Training will be provided to ushers and to the Altar Guild. The congregation will be informed of our infection mitigation procedures.
- We will have reserved assigned seating to aid with contact tracing if anyone subsequently becomes infected. Anyone who has symptoms of cough, congestion or fever will be asked to stay home.
- Masks will be required for everyone who enters the courtyard. People will be asked to bring their own mask, but we will provide masks to those who don't have one or who forget theirs.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided at the entrance to the worship space.
- Seating: The congregation will be seated around the perimeter of the courtyard, in chairs that are at least 6 feet apart, marked out with chalk. Couples and families that live together may sit closer together. The two benches will be reserved for families or couples. The chairs we will use are non-porous and will be disinfected with a 5% bleach solution according to CDC guidelines after the services. We will also disinfect the restrooms with a 5% bleach solution. No other rooms on our church campus will be available for use.
- Ushers will wear masks and gloves. Ushers will do a health screen for each person attending, including a temperature check, and those waiting to be checked will be 6 feet apart according to markings on the ground. Ushers will hand out disposable bulletins.
- We will not have Eucharistic Ministers or Acolytes until further notice.
- Music: we will have a prelude and a postlude and other service music, but we will not be singing.
- The Peace will be shared by remaining in place and bowing to one another.
- The Offering: The bread and wine will be already in place on the table before the service begins. The Collection will be taken as the congregation depart, depositing it into a collection plate that will be safely placed into the safe. The congregation will be encouraged to use our online giving facility on our website.
- Communion: We will consecrate wafer hosts and a small amount of wine. We will offer the consecrated host only, to those who wish to partake. The consecrated wine will be poured to the ground after the service. Communicants will be asked to step forward keeping their masks on. Rev. Karen will distribute the host to those who have stepped forward. Rev. Karen will have her mask on throughout the distribution. Communicants will be asked to wait until they've stepped back to their seat to remove their mask and eat the host. Masks are to be put back on afterwards.
- Disinfection of the chairs and restrooms will take place after each service.
- The congregation will be asked to refrain from socializing in the courtyard after the service.
- There will be no children's Sunday School until further notice.

Submitted by Rev. Karen Freeman, priest-in-charge.

Dated Aug. 28, 2020. These guidelines supersede any guidelines or safety measures sent out previously.