



**ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
RETURNING TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP
15649 N 7TH ST, PHOENIX, AZ 85022**

September 6, 2020

Members of the All Saints Congregation,

Out of an abundance of love and caution, all activities and gatherings at All Saints Lutheran Church were suspended as of March 15, 2020. Our future plans have consistently been discussed and evaluated by the Staff and Council as we take heed to the most updated guidelines not only from the Grand Canyon Synod, but from local, state and federal officials as well, concerning the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our church community and activities.

Based on the current status of Covid-19, we are making plans for the resumption of in-person worship on Sunday, September 20th. There will be no cutback on the online worship services currently provided. Those who have been attending online worship may continue as you do now. In the future, we will begin live-streaming the service so that you may attend virtually with your church family.

As expected the in-person worship service will look different for us all, as we take safety precautions into account.

- Worship service will be shortened to 30 minutes.
- Check-in will take place outside, under the gazebo.
- There will be an attendance limit of 50 persons, including the pastor, musicians, ushers, children etc.
- Reservations for attendance will be made in advance either online or through the church office on the Tuesday the week prior to each service. Visit www.allsaintsphoenix.org to make your reservation or your family's reservation.
- Masks will be worn and plexi-glass has been installed where appropriate.
- Social distancing will be achieved by limiting seating to every other pew and on each end of the pews. Once seated, all will be asked to remain in their seats for the entire service.
- Those attending are encouraged to tend to bathroom needs before arriving.
- Verbal responses will be limited and those attending will be encouraged to speak softly to limit the spread of airborne particles.
- Holy Communion will be available in individual packets. Those attending will pick up their own packet as they enter service. At the time for Communion, each participant will open their packet and consume the wafer and grape juice contained in each. Those participating online are asked to also share by consuming bread and wine/grape juice/water at communion time.
- Offering baskets will be available at the entrance.
- Attendees will be dismissed in sections by the ushers and must leave the building and go directly to the parking lot.

Obviously, we will be taking one step at a time as we continue our journey toward expanded worship in the safest way possible.

We are excited about the many new ways we are learning about gathering and being the people of God wherever and however we meet. The ministry of All Saints has not closed, only our building has. There is life-giving ministry happening and we are grateful for the many ways our congregation is lovingly serving our neighbors every day. We look forward with joy and anticipation as we resume in-person worship at All Saints and we ask for continued prayers as we do so.

Should you have further questions, please do not hesitate calling the church office or contacting any Council member.

In Christ's love,

The All Saints Lutheran Church Congregational Council

Pr. Dan Hoeger, Pr. Kristin Rice, Karen Rasmussen, *President*, Nance Wabshaw, *Vice President*, Ben Blixt, *Treasurer*, Lenore Little, *Secretary*, Kristin Boorse, Dave Cech, Jerry Hugo, Tim Gaffney, Mike Peterson