

Greetings, Saints of Gregory Memorial!

I come bearing good news: Per session, and with advisement from The Presbytery of The James, we will begin the process of regathering in person for worship this coming Sunday, June 14.

Now, we are still in a pandemic, there is still no active vaccine, and treatment is still on a somewhat limited availability. To that end, we are still taking active precautions to keep our membership and our community healthy, and strongly encourage you to do the same. We ask that, if you make the choice to join us again in person, that you take this into account and take steps to protect your health and the health of those around you.

Also, in consultation with the Worship Committee, we have decided to postpone worship at Scott Park until the fall.

Please review the following items for information. If you have questions, please contact Jason.

-If you feel sick, have a fever, or show other signs/symptoms of illness, please continue to worship with us from your home. If you stay home, for illness or your personal comfort, our online worship will continue. Calling in on your phone to listen to the audio will also still be an option (all information to do so is in the newsletter).

-A handout will be provided each Sunday to augment your worship experience. Please bring your Bible should you wish to follow along with the Scripture readings.

-A spot will be made available at each entrance to place your offerings; no plate will be passed.

-We will begin on June 14th with "drive-in" worship in the upper parking lot of the church. In inclement weather, we will meet in the sanctuary (see below). This will be our practice for June.

-As you park, you may choose to sit outside your car. Please take steps to keep socially distant from one another, and Pass the Peace of Christ without contact. Masks are still encouraged.

Sanctuary Worship:

-Every other pew will be marked off in order to ensure proper distance. Please respect this, and do not move the tape to sit somewhere marked off.

-Please sit, either individually or as a family unit, on the aisle seats of the pews on either end, and use common sense in remaining socially distant.

-Again, when it comes to the Passing of the Peace of Christ, please do so from a distance.

-When we are gathered indoors, masks will still be required.

Saints, I know this is still not ideal, and is likely still less than what we yearn for. I share that frustration. But until there is a vaccine, until the full aspects of treatment are readily available for any and all who become sick, then in the love of Christ we will continue to take what steps as we can to keep our community – and its members – healthy and whole. We ask for your grace in this, and for your continued loving prayers for strength and discernment; we're figuring this out as we go along. I look forward to seeing you soon.

In Christ...

Jason Casling
10 June 2020