



Saint David's Episcopal Church

The Reverend Andrew D'Angio White, Rector

So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

Galatians 6:9-10

July 9, 2021

Dear friends,

It is with great joy that I share that St. David's will be resuming in-person worship in our sanctuary on September 12! I commend and thank the Vestry and the Worship team for their diligent efforts in making hard decisions throughout the course of this pandemic. In the meantime, we will continue with our single outdoor service on Sunday mornings, livestreamed when weather does not permit gathering outdoors. More details as to the specifics of our gathering in September (safety measures we will adopt, and how many services we will have) will be forthcoming in August.

I would be remiss in not thanking also our verger, Bill Rhines, our Pastoral Musician Tom Kovacevic, and my fellow clergy, the Rev. Kris Conley and the Rev. Gail Chandler, and our "Stream Team" of John Cuzzo, Mary Provo, Ellen Tacy, Chris MacClinchy, Mark Monson Alley, Holly Margeson-Gamache, and Jackie Belmonte, who have worked tirelessly to ensure that worship happens in our community. It takes many hands, most of them not public, to offer our Sunday service, and over this past sixteen months those hands have been few and hardworking.

I am also pleased to share that, as of August 1, we will open our doors to in-person gatherings of groups both from the church and from outside. We will continue our heightened sanitizing procedures of high-touch surfaces, and unvaccinated people will be required to wear masks while indoors. Of course, some groups may continue to opt to meet on Zoom or outdoors.

For some of you, this news may come as a disappointment, either because you were hoping to return to the sanctuary sooner, or because you are not yet ready to return to in-person gatherings. Please know that your leaders have wrestled hard with these decisions, seeking to balance the need for safety with the no less real need for our community to gather in familiar ways.

Ultimately, we are a community of faith, not only a business or a nonprofit or a public venue. We are followers of Jesus Christ, who taught us that the whole of the law is fulfilled in loving God and our neighbor. In this moment, after much prayer, this is what we believe love of God and love of neighbor looks like for our particular community.

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In being guided by our faith in Christ, we not only ground ourselves in who we are, we commit ourselves to following the One who has led the Church through pandemics, wars, and disasters of all kinds throughout history: Christ Jesus, in whom I am

Your brother,

Andrew D'Angio White, Rector

PS As we continue to gather, we are constantly reminded of the need we have for volunteers to lead our worship services. If you have served as a lector, usher, greeter, acolyte, or other worship leader in the past, please consider reaching out to myself or Parish Administrator Cathy Zub to find out how you may continue to share in this ministry.