Reopening Plan for Saint John Burlington

Dear Brothers and Sisters in our Lord Jesus Christ,

As we once again will be gathering to receive our Lord’s gracious gifts in Word and Sacrament, we will be observing the following measures to maintain reverence, a sanitary environment, and the general welfare of our church family and guests. These measures will be relaxed over time as circumstances allow.

General Items:

* We will gather for worship at our normal times of 8:00 and 10:30 am.
* The exterior front doors will either be propped open or held open by someone wearing a face mask. The rear, educational doors will remain locked.
* All interior doors will be propped open so that no one needs to touch the handles.
* Our current capacity is around 200 people. We will follow the current guidelines suggesting no more than 25% capacity for each service (roughly 50 people). If needed, we will set up chairs in the narthex and cry room if more people show up.
* Please sit in every other pew, and maintain 6 feet of separation from other families.
* Please refrain from congregating in the narthex before and after the service. If you wish to visit with someone, please do so in the parking lot.
* No food or beverages will be served before or after the service.
* Bathrooms will be open. Make sure you wash your hands thoroughly.
* Our worship area will be cleaned after each service.

Distancing and Etiquette:

* Maintain at least 6 feet between households at all times.
* Hand sanitizer and soap is available in the restrooms.
* Face coverings are optional and left up to your own discretion. We recommend that you wear your face coverings as you enter and exit the building but you are welcome to remove them during worship.

Order of Service:

* We will be ushering families in as they arrive to help assist them as to where to sit.
* The liturgy and hymns will be projected on the screen. A few printed Orders of Service will be available. We will be removing all items from the pews, but if you would like to bring your own hymnal from home you are welcome to.
* Offering plates will not be passed, but placed on a stand as you leave the sanctuary. We will continue to have the opportunity to give your offering electronically through our website. [www.stjohnlutheran.com/give-now](http://www.stjohnlutheranchurch.com/give-now)
* For the 8 am service, we begin live-streaming at 7:50. Please silence your phone and enter quietly.
* After the service, we will usher people out beginning with the back pews (opposite of what we normally do).

Holy Communion:

* For the time being, we will serve Holy Communion individually to families following the worship service, or at any other time during the week as pastor is available.
* Pastor will distribute, wearing a face mask and disposable gloves.

Staying Home:

* Please stay home if…
* You have Covid-19.
* You have Covid 19 symptoms.
* You have come into contact with someone who has had it in the past 14 days.
* You are not feeling well.
* You consider yourself to be high risk.
* You are not yet comfortable joining us.

Live-Streaming;

* We will continue to live-stream our 8 am service on our Facebook page and website for those unable to join us.
* We will continue to post a recording of the live-stream on our YouTube page.
* Bulletins and announcements will continue to be available online as before.

Guests:

* As always, guests are welcome.
* We encourage you, however, to attend your own congregation if possible.
* We will post these guidelines on our front door and ask that you observe them.
* Please feel free to join our live-stream.

In Christ’s love and grace,

Pastor Pinion

Joe Ferwerda, DCE

The Board of Elders

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