



CHRIST CHURCH
VERO BEACH

Phase 2: Our Plan to Re-Open for Worship and Ministry

by Fr. Keith Allen, Rector

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The [Great Commandment](#) provides the guiding principle for our decision making throughout this plan. We are seeking to love God and to love our neighbors through every step of this process. The Lord God is worthy to be worshiped through the proclamation of the Scripture, the proper administration of the Sacraments, and a gathered people who are filled with the Holy Spirit. However, God's love of humankind and His command that we love our neighbor necessitates that we worship in a way that protects the most vulnerable and demonstrates their value to us as the Body of Christ.

The goal of being "good citizens" and working in coordination and collaboration with civic and national guidance is also a key element of our reopening process. This means that we will not rush ahead of the guidance of our health officials and government leaders. In doing so, the Church is not relinquishing our constitutional rights, but rather is seeking to follow the Biblical call to demonstrate our faith by being good citizens and obeying those in authority over us. God uses our elected officials for our good and so we will seek to follow the guidance given by these officials.

Throughout this process we are committed to living out our mission to **worship, grow, and reach**. Our plan has three phases, and in each phase there are distinct opportunities for you to engage in all aspects of our mission. Regardless of the phase, it is important that all members of Christ Church invest themselves intentionally in worshiping the Lord, in growing in their faith through study and devotion, and reaching out to others as there are needs all around us.

PHASE 2

General

- In an abundance of precaution, we encourage **anyone with a compromised immune system to consider worshipping online** on Sundays and/or attend either the Wednesday or Thursday services.
- We ask all who attend a public event at Christ Church to wear a mask and wash/sanitize hands upon entering the building.
- Volunteer teams will sanitize publicly used areas on Mondays and Fridays, and leaders of classes or meetings are responsible to sanitize the surfaces in the area used by their group before leaving.
- IF YOU FEEL ILL AT ALL, PLEASE STAY HOME.

Worship

- We will expand the seating capacity in the Nave to **80 parishioners** along with the **10 volunteers for altar and AV support** for the Sunday morning Eucharist, Wednesday Evening Prayer, and Thursday morning Eucharist services. This represents 25% of our normal capacity.
- Due to the limited seating in Phase 2, **those planning to attend any of our three worship services MUST call the office in advance to reserve seating.** If more than 80 people wish to attend a service, we will offer overflow seating in the Community Center where the service will be live streamed.
- We will offer Eucharist by intinction, where the bread will be dipped into the wine and placed into your hand. In addition, we encourage the continuation of Spiritual communion for all who have concerns during this phase.
- An offering box is located on the wall at the entrance to the Nave, as offering plates will not be passed. Alternatives include online giving or mailing your tithes and offerings to the church office.
- We will abstain from physical contact while passing the peace.
- We will maintain 6 feet of social distance as recommended by the CDC. Seating will be available every other row with three chairs of separation between family groups.
- We will limit musicians and vocalists to 4 vocalists and 4 band members during Phase 2.

Grow

- We will offer Sunday School with a **maximum attendance of 50 people** in the Community Center. These classes will be recorded and made available online.
- Bible Studies, discipleship groups and committee meetings may resume scheduling in the Community Center or Nave or via teleconferences.

Reach

- Sunday coffee hour and fellowship remains suspended.
- We encourage your continued acts of kindness and generosity to those in need, connecting with people by phone or correspondence, and inviting people to attend online Bible Studies, support groups and worship services with you while we are still limited from large fellowship groups.

The implementation of Phase 3 will occur in conjunction with continued decline in active cases within Indian River County and directives from Bp. Neil Lebhar.

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