



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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July 3rd, 2020

Dear people of Trinity,

On July 12th, 2020, we will hold an outdoor worship service at 9am. Thanks be to God!

Many are likely eager for details regarding how this worship service will look, so here are a few. Service will take place on the “parsonage side” of the upper parking lot, and we have also been invited to use the Allison’s shaded grassy area which borders our property as well. Closer parking will be available on the “church side” of the upper parking lot, while all others are encouraged to use the lower lot for parking. All are invited to bring lawn chairs or blankets to sit on. If you need a chair, we will be offering the metal chairs from the Social Room. Music will be played by our gifted musicians, but no singing will take place at this time. We will also continue to offer An Order for Home Worship in July, and are looking for ways to video record the service as well to aid all who are unable to attend.

Physical distancing and wearing a mask will be required when attending services until further notice. We ask all attending to bring their own mask. Throughout the entire experience – before the service, during, and after, we ask that members (excluding households) maintain at least a 6ft distance from one another.

As you can tell, services will look a little different than we are used to. That’s okay! When we come back together we may feel a little disjointed, and some may not feel comfortable or able to return to worship yet. That’s okay too. I encourage you to be gracious to one another. Be gentle with one another. Leave room for relationships to return, and for friendships to regrow. Trust one another, and honor the trust you are given.

It should be noted that outdoor worship is not a “forever place.” We will continue to do our best to journey toward a worship style that looks more and more familiar. It is important to recognize that our future with the virus is unknown. We will continue to monitor conditions and guidelines from state, federal, synod, and denomination wide resources to determine when to resume familiar activities or stricter mitigation efforts.

It has been a long road to arrive at this point in terms of physical, mental, emotional and spiritual work. I commend and give my deepest thanks to our Council and the Task Force for their ongoing efforts in preparing a way for us to return. We are beneficiaries of your work, and the grace of God seen through your efforts.

With all of this said, with no intent to dampen or alter words of both caution and grace, I must share that I am so very much looking forward to gathering with you whenever you are able.

Peace,

Pastor Ben Siebert