



We're Back (Sort of . . .)!

It will be great to be in our sacred place of worship this **Sunday, June 7**, and to see some of you again. It will be far from “normal” but at least we can gather together in worship. It will look and feel quite different and I am certainly sad that we will not be having Holy Communion. That said, it is still an opportunity to gather in the Lord’s name in our Lord’s house and to experience an Anglican liturgy again. As many of us so miss our beloved St. Philip Church, I would, nevertheless, recommend that those who are in the “high risk” category consider waiting a while longer before you join a worship service for your guarded health and well-being during this Pandemic time. For those who can and do plan to attend this Sunday’s worship service, please be patient and thoughtful of others as you comply with the many changes, restrictions and preventative measures and protocols. As inconvenient and frustrating as they may be, they have all been careful attempts to protect and provide a safe place for worshipers during this time. I can assure you after many conference calls and discussions from the Diocese and clergy, the primary motive behind these protocols has been to put forth our best effort of providing a safe environment for our worshipers. Frankly, I do not necessarily agree with all of the suggestions and protocols, but I am reminded that “It is not about me!” but about the taking care of others (Ouch!).

And that my friends is the living Gospel! See you this Sunday or see us on the Podcast of the service. Please thank Richard Townley and Bob Ely for the many efforts given for the production of our weekly Podcasts.

Please review our Guidelines for St. Philip and the Bishop’s Guidelines for Worshipers (below).

Blessings,

Fr. Terry +

Guidelines for Resumption of In-Person Worship at St. Philip Episcopal Church

- Available seating will be strategically marked to adhere to the social distancing protocols. Ushers will direct each parishioner to his/her seating. People will be seated beginning at the front row.
- The Daily Office will be the form of worship. There will be no communion.
- There will be no readers or acolytes for the present time. These duties will be assigned to the selected Altar servers.
- Single use service bulletins will be available for pick-up and disposal at designated places. We encourage everyone to take their bulletins home to keep or discard.
- No congregational singing will occur.



- All BCP and Hymnals have been removed from the pews and stored elsewhere. You are welcome to bring your own BCP or Bible. The entire service and readings will be printed in your bulletin.
- There will be designated places for offerings.
- There will be no coffee hour, formation classes or nursery at this time.
- Parishioners will be dismissed by rows by the ushers at the end of the service starting with the back rows.
- Worship space and all other spaces used (bathrooms, doorknobs, rails, etc.) will be cleaned/sanitized before and after each service.
- Individual face masks will be required by all who attend or serve in the service.
- There will be supplies available to all worshipers including disposable face masks for those who do not have them and hand sanitizers at each entry/exit location.
- At the Peace, attendees can acknowledge others while staying in their place.
- Weather permitting, Fr. Terry can greet attendees outside the front red doors while practicing safe measures.
- The Bishop's "[Guidelines for Worshipers](#)" should be reviewed by all who plan on attending a service.
- We encourage all "at risk" members to consider not attending until there is a greater margin of safety from the virus.
- We will provide a Podcast of our Sunday service that should be available each Sunday afternoon.

Bishop's Guidelines for Worshipers

- The evening before the worship service, each member of the household planning to attend in-person worship should check their temperature (should be less than 100° F) and determine whether anyone has a dry cough or has lost their sense of smell.
- If anyone has any of these symptoms, has been exposed to someone with coronavirus or has tested positive for coronavirus, the household members should remain at home and worship online.
- Persons who are at higher risk for coronavirus (children, persons age 65 or older, those who are asthmatic, diabetic or have a compromised immune system) should assess the degree of risk that is acceptable for them and their household.
- Please wash your hands before you leave home.
- Please bring a clean face mask for each member of the household except for children less than 2 years old. Wear the face mask throughout the service and when you are near others.
- Please bring hand sanitizer and apply it before entering the building.
- Maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from other persons at all times.



- Please do not shake hands or otherwise touch people who are not members of your household, including during the Peace.
- There will be no congregational singing until health experts advise otherwise.
- Please follow the church's protocols for entering and exiting the building.
- Please go straight to your seats at the beginning of the service and leave the building promptly after the service.
- Please place your bulletin in the place designated by the church at the end of the service or take it home with you to recycle.