



November 3, 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus,

After much prayerful consideration, we have sought advice from many individuals with differing viewpoints on each side of the Coronavirus spectrum. We have tried to follow Paul's advice in first letter to the Corinthians: ***"So whether you eat or drink, or do anything else, do everything to the glory of God. ³² Do not give offense to Jews, or Greeks, or God's church, ³³ just as I also try to please all people in all things, by not seeking what is best for me but for the many, so that they may be saved (10:31-33)."***

As the COVID-19 numbers have continued to remain at a relatively high level, we have determined it is not in Trinity's best interest to "return to normal" beginning with the TLS Christmas Service (this was our original plan for this fall). Instead, we plan to continue offering a modified approach. Our services will continue to have socially distanced seating (every other pew during regular services, every third pew during the "high risk" service). We will collect the offerings in the boxes in the narthex. We will provide two hand sanitizer stations. We will continue to ask everyone in our "high risk" service to wear a mask throughout the service. Our "high risk" service will still be a shortened service without singing. For those not comfortable attending church in person yet, we will continue to record our services each week. We will record the Sunday 8:00 a.m. service each week and post it on Monday morning.

Here is our plan for the Christmas season and beyond:

- **Advent Concerts:** We plan to offer two Advent Concerts. We will welcome Mike Westendorf on December 9 at 6:30 p.m. Mike is an extremely talented musician and vocalist and has taken his talents on the road throughout WELS Congregations for the past 16 years. We will also have an Advent Lessons and Carols Service featuring our Church Choir and Robert Potratz on the organ on December 16 at 6:30 p.m. In an effort to provide a safe environment for all, we will not be having a preservice meal in our Commons.
- **TLS School Service:** We will be offering our service "in person" for those that wish to attend. We will be recording it for those who wish to watch it virtually. The service structure will be modified from years past to ensure a safe environment. The services will be on December 18 at 10:00 a.m. and on December 19 at 3:00 and 4:15 p.m. We are asking those planning on attending to sign up in advance. Tickets with assigned seats will be given out to all who plan to attend. You will need to sign up for tickets by December 4.



- **Christmas Eve:** We plan to offer four services on Christmas Eve. 2:00, 3:30, 5:00 and 6:30 p.m. There will be plenty of room for all to attend. We would encourage you to invite a friend. We would ask our members to sign up for general seating during the month of December. Sign-up sheets will be available on the new communication counter in the church narthex. You can also sign up for a service by calling or emailing the church office. These sign-up sheets are not meant to “lock” you into a service, but are meant to help us in love try and spread out to different services.
- **Christmas Day:** We will be offering the Lord’s Supper at three services on Christmas Day: 8:00, 9:15, and 11:00 a.m. (the 11:00 a.m. service will be our “High Risk” worship opportunity with the heightened accommodations in place—including the lack of congregational singing).
- **New Year’s Eve:** We will not be offering any services on New Year’s Eve.
- **Worship in 2021:** Beginning January 7, our Thursday Evening Service will become our “high risk” service with all of its current precautions. Beginning January 10, our Sunday service times will shift back to the normal 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. time slots.
- **Bible Class in 2021:** Beginning January 10, we will once again be offering Bible Class at Trinity! Our Bible Class and Sunday School Program will look a bit different from what it has in the past. We will still offer our Christian Youth Society (CYS) and a traditional Sunday School for students in PreK and Kindergarten. New this year—we will be offering an entire Family Bible Class for students in grades 1 and above to attend with their parents in the commons. We will offer a more traditional Bible Class in the church sanctuary.

Please ask the Lord to bless this plan according to his will. May it serve Jesus, his kingdom and his people well. Ask the Lord to unite us all around the only message that matters, the only message that saves, Christ crucified for me!

In Christ’s Service,

The Church Council
Board of Elders
Education Committee
Discipleship Committee
Outreach Committee