

## In Person Guidelines

On November 2, in response to a recommendation from the ECHS Regathering Committee, our Vestry voted to offer ***in person worship services beginning Sunday, November 14, 2021, at 10:30 a.m.*** In addition, we will offer a virtual option (accessed via our ECHS website and by an emailed link) for those who prefer to attend services virtually. **Please (as the Prayer book says) “read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest” these guidelines prior to attending services at ECHS.**

- **Beginning Sunday, November 14, 2021**, ECHS will offer one worship service on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. with an in-person and a virtual option.
- Reservations will not be required for ECHS Sunday morning services.
- If the in-person attendance exceeds a number that is deemed acceptable by the Vestry to maintain congregational safety and wellbeing, additional service times will be offered.
- Face masks (fully covering mouth and nose) are required to be worn by those inside the building while attending the Sunday morning services. KN-95 masks are highly recommended.
- Practicing a minimum of 3 feet of social distance between persons not in one’s family and/or safety pod-group is highly encouraged.
- **Persons attending in-person services on Sundays are encouraged to dress according to the weather.** Fans will be used to circulate air out of the sanctuary throughout the service. On warmer days, the windows in the sanctuary will be opened.
- The Presider is permitted to remove his/her mask while leading worship and preaching while maintaining a minimum of 10 feet distance from others. **Lesson readers, worship leaders must wear masks while reading. Musicians will lead music from the back of the sanctuary and are permitted to remove masks while singing.**
- Please refrain from hugging -- especially inside the building.
- In-person attendees may seat themselves in the sanctuary.
- Aisles of chairs in the sanctuary will be arranged with 5 feet between aisles. Aisles in the sanctuary will be arranged with wide aisles.

- There will be chairs in the sanctuary (on the right side) designated for those persons who prefer more than 6 feet of social distance. A sign will designate this area.
- Gold cloth strips will be provided for anyone who would like to designate empty chairs (and thus more social distance) in the sanctuary.
- **Congregational singing is NOT permitted. Humming is encouraged.**
- The Peace will be shared without leaving the area in front of your chair. Words and creative gestures to share The Peace are encouraged.
- A speaker/sound system will be set up in the hallway of the church to be used for those who choose to remain more spaced apart in the hallway.
- The presider will apply antibacterial gel to his/her hands immediately before administering the Eucharistic bread to the congregation.
- Prepared Eucharistic wine in paper cups will be offered on a table at the front of the sanctuary.
- Ushers will be trained to direct the congregation in receiving Holy Eucharist one aisle at a time to facilitate safe social distance.
- The sound system will be used in the sanctuary to enhance the sound quality in the sanctuary.
- The congregation will be encouraged to exit the building ASAP after the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Socializing outside (while practicing 3' minimum social distance) rather than inside the ECHS building is encouraged.
- The serving of any food or drinks is currently suspended on Sunday mornings.
- The Vestry strongly recommends that all of our members get vaccinated against COVID-19. Vaccinations are a necessary tool used to battle and overcome the pandemic and it is a real and practical way of loving one another, of keeping one another safe from harm, and moving us towards a more comfortable, familiar, and intimate social experience with one another.