

Greetings my dear friends,

The Session met through video conferencing on Monday, May 4th to determine when to begin worship. We will resume in-person worship on May 24th at the 9 AM and 11 AM services. Both services will practice “social distancing.” This will be the state of worship for the foreseeable future. This means that we will observe the following guidelines and precautionary measures:

- **We will only allow a limited number of people into our sanctuary.** The Fellowship Hall will be set up for overflow.
- **We will only use every other pew.** There will be a limited number of people per pew in order to maintain social distancing.
- **The touch points of the sanctuary, (pew backs, door handles, etc.) will be cleaned in between services.**
- **We will provide hand sanitizer at each door.**
- **Face masks are encouraged, but are not required.**
- **Please do not attend if you are sick, have a fever, or experiencing flu like symptoms.**
- **If you feel that you are at risk, please do not feel compelled to come.**
- **We will continue to have online worship available, and beginning on May 24th, we will start livestreaming our Sunday services.**

Everyone must decide their acceptable risk. Some people and families may choose to wait before returning to in-person worship, while others of similar circumstances may return immediately. These decisions should not be a source of shame or judgment, and St. Johns understands that each person has a responsibility to protect themselves and their families. If a person returns immediately, this should not be a source of pride or judgment. *“Respect everyone, and love your Christian brothers and sisters. Fear God, and respect the king.” 1 Peter 2:17 (NLT)*

Everyone must recognize that this is an ever changing, dynamic environment, and it is subject to change. As soon as possible, after May 24th, we will allow Sunday school classes, children’s ministry, youth ministry, and other programs to resume with the appropriate guidelines and social distancing. Our goal is to create a safe environment for everyone, to the extent that is within our power. Your personal choice for when to return to worship is not a test of faith. Whether online or in-person, St. Johns will continue to worship as one, a united body of believers, seeking to honor God in our minds and hearts. *“Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will*

show you which path to take.” Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT) Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. May God protect and bless all of you!

In Christ,

Pastor Jon