

Trinity Lutheran Church Control Measures and Protocols for limiting the risk of spreading Covid19

November 3, 2021

The Covid 19 risk level for Trinity Lutheran Church will be posted on the church's website tlcsparta.wixsite.com/trinity

1. Physical distancing:

- a) A minimum physical space of 6 feet between persons should be maintained during worship services.
- b) Families living in 1 residence may be considered as 1 unit/person. The family unit should maintain a physical distance of 6 feet from other units/persons
- c) Physical distancing should be practiced during fellowship time before and after worship.

2) Screening and personal protection for all persons using our facilities:

- a) All persons entering should ask themselves the following questions:
 - i) Am I feeling ill?
 - ii) Have I been in close contact with a person who has Covid 19 in the last 2 weeks?
 - iii) Persons answering yes to any of the questions above should worship remotely.
- b) Personal protective equipment and practices
 - i) Each person should sanitize their hands when entering and leaving the building.
 - ii) Each person is required to wear an effective face covering when indoors at Trinity.
 - iii) Persons should avoid touching their hands to their face, mouth, and/or eyes.
- c) Public health officials, staff, and congregants will be notified about potential exposure if a person diagnosed with Covid 19 has been in the facility.

3) Sanitation of facilities

- a) Each group that uses Trinity facilities is expected to perform sanitizing practices for the areas that they have occupied, (i.e. wiping tables):
 - i) Surfaces that are wiped or sprayed with disinfectant should stand at least 10 minutes before being used
 - ii) Sanitizing wipes will be provided at each entrance.

4) Considerations for mitigation practices for worship services and other activities

- a) Bulletins will not be reused and redistribution of printed materials is discouraged. Recycling bins will be available for used bulletins.
- b) In-person group singing will be based on community spread and location of worship service.
- c) Pew hymnals and Bibles will be available in the narthex on a use/return basis for each worship service.
 - i) Hymn lyrics and other written materials will be presented on the video screen or bulletin
- d) Sharing of the Peace will be done at a distance
- e) Offerings will not be taken by passing the plate. Offerings may be placed in a receptacle in the narthex. Electronic giving is encouraged to limit spread of covid 19.
- f) Communion will be adapted to minimize multiple-person contacts of the elements of the meal and to maintain physical distancing
- g) The length of indoor worship services as well as other activities may be shortened to limit the accumulation of aerosol particles.
- h) Specific criteria and modifications for the Covid 19 protocols will be recommended by the Return Committee and approved by the church council.

- 5) **Covid 19 Risk levels Extreme, High, and Moderate (new case 7-day running total in excess of 105/100,000 residents)**
- a) All mitigations and protocols will be in place.
 - b) Seating will be every other pew with physical distancing as detailed in Item 1.
 - c) Groups in meeting rooms will follow posted room capacities.
 - d) During periods of elevated risk, worship will be conducted outdoors when possible.
 - e) We recommend full vaccination against the covid 19 virus for all who are eligible.
 - f) Multiple worship services may be scheduled to accommodate demand
 - g) Remote distribution of worship services will continue
- 6) **Covid 19 Low Risk level: Covid new case rate 7-day running total under 105/100k**
- i) No maximum gathering size limit
 - ii) Multiple worship services may be scheduled to accommodate demand
 - iii) Remote distribution of worship services will continue.
 - iv) Offices will be open with regular hours
 - (1) Accommodations may be made to protect the health of employees to include working remotely if necessary and possible
 - (2) Wearing of masks will be strongly encouraged
 - v) We recommend full vaccination against the covid 19 virus for all who are eligible.