



St. Paul Lutheran Church  
275 Nation Drive  
Auburn, CA 95603

The Rev. Dr. David F. Poganski, Pastor  
Phone: (530) 885-5378 E-mail: [stpaul@inreach.com](mailto:stpaul@inreach.com)

19 June 2020

Dear Friends in Christ, Fellow Redeemed, Children of the Heavenly Father:

The "wait" is almost over. Lord willing, we will be back with an OUTDOOR Communion Service on Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. This service will be held in the upper parking lot closest to church parsonage. Attendants/Ushers will be available to direct traffic, etc. If possible, you are asked to bring your own lawn chair, although chairs will be available, as well as masks and hand sanitizer.

This will be a different experience for all of us. We will only have the outdoor service, which will be no more than 45 minutes. There will be no formal fellowship time, and Sunday School and Adult Bible Class will continue on ZOOM, 11 a.m. and Noon respectively.

The reason an outdoor service is viewed as our best option is because if we were to meet inside church, there would be no congregational singing or responses. Outside, physically distanced and with our masks on, we can sing and respond as we normally would.

Also, at this time, we do not know when we will transition to indoor worship. The attached guidelines are for both outdoor and when feasible, our indoor worship. If you have any questions, please speak with me.

We also know that some of you may not feel comfortable in attending a service at this point. We understand that the COVID-19 virus is still a threat to our health, and we do not want anyone attending that does not feel comfortable in doing so.

God's richest blessings to you in Christ Jesus our Lord!

In His Love,

Rev. David F. Poganski  
Pastor

## Worship Reopening Guidelines

It is with great joy we are announcing that our church service will resume on Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. ***This will be an outdoor service in the shady portion of the smaller lot below the statue. We are asking you to bring lightweight camp-style folding chairs for your personal use.*** We will also have some church folding chairs available. Outdoor worship will continue for a yet to be determined number of weeks. Worship is expected to be shorter due to minimal movement during worship and at least initially minimal or no congregation singing or offering collection.

Great care has been taken to apply all the latest recommendations from the CDC, the State of California, Placer County, and Synod. Special considerations include the demographics of our members (70% of our members and friends are 65 plus) and the physical layout of our campus. Physical distancing (6 ft), face coverings and frequent hand sanitation and/or gloves need to be the norm of all members from arrival until departure. Wearing face coverings/masks and social distancing is a gift of love we can give to our fellow members who otherwise might be immunocompromised because of age and/or other medical conditions. The goals of the following procedures are to provide a "non-touch" experience for our worship except your seating, a bulletin and reception of the Lord's Supper.

### ARRIVAL & PARKING

- Please wear face masks/coverings from arrival until departure
- The sidewalks and areas below the patio steps will become the new socializing area observing the 6 ft. distancing and masks

NOTE: Outdoor Worship - same

### PATIO (Once Indoor Services Resume)

- Outdoor seating will still be available for those who are uncomfortable sitting inside and for those whose age and medical condition might render them immunocompromised

- Existing patio speakers and a TV live streaming at the fellowship hall window will be in use
- Masks, hand sanitizer and/or gloves will be available at the stairs
- A few face-shields will be on hand for some who might not tolerate a mask due to a medical condition
- A clearly marked 6 ft. separation line will be used if the narthex becomes overcrowded

NOTE: Outdoor Worship - same

#### NARTHEX

- Because of the small space and high traffic, we can no longer use this area for socializing and maintain social distancing
- A greeter/usher will facilitate and monitor entry into and through to the sanctuary, office, cry room, bathrooms, and the prayer request podium
- Bulletins will be distributed at the sanctuary door
- Only one person, couple, or family will be admitted to office at a time
- Cry room seating is limited. Best used by a larger family with kids.
- If possible, please email or phone in prayer request ahead of time. Disposable pencils and pads will be supplied at podium

NOTE: Outdoor Worship - restrooms and mailboxes will be open and an usher will facilitate access.

#### RESTROOMS:

- Access will be monitored by the greeter/usher to prevent crowding and help maintain 6 ft rule
- Please minimize restroom use by taking care of those needs at home
- Restrooms will be cleaned and sanitized before service. If you use, please keep your mask on, and only touch necessary surfaces

- Wash hands BEFORE, as well as after, and use paper towels for drying and opening door
- NOTE: Outdoor Worship - Allow extra time to get to restrooms

#### SANCTUARY (Date for Indoor Services TBD)

- Please move through the narthex and directly to seating
- Alternate rows on alternate sides of the pews will seat 2-4 people of the same household
- No seating in front pew
- Lectern side doors will be open (weather permitting) and some seating can be accommodated on the deck, observing the 6 ft distancing
- The fellowship hall will be available for distanced seating
- Initially, worship will begin at 9:00 a.m. All doors and windows will be open, and fans will facilitate inside/outside air exchange
- The air conditioner will be used in fan only mode (no cooling) so dress accordingly
- An offering plate will be available at the back of the sanctuary as you enter, then brought forward. No plate will be passed during the service
- Temporarily, we will not be having congregational singing until deemed safe. Soloist, small choir, and pre-recorded singing will be used safely
- The Lord's Supper will be distributed at the altar rail and received while standing. Family groups, couples and individuals should observe 6 ft spacing. Pastor and/or the Elder will be masked during the distribution. **No common cup will be offered at this time**

NOTE: Outdoor Worship - Communion distribution TBD

#### DEPARTURE

- Patio seating will exit first, followed by the back rows of the sanctuary
- Exit of the fellowship room can be through back door, the kitchen or the narthex as distancing allows