



# First English Lutheran Church

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August 4, 2021

RE: Worship Resumes at First English Lutheran Church

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am happy to tell you that we will be able to resume worship here at First English Lutheran Church starting this coming Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 9 am.

Due to the rising levels of COVID 19 cases in our state and local counties, the protocol of wearing masks and physical distancing will once again be required for all activities at our Church until further notice.

As your pastor, I sincerely believe that gathering for worship and fellowship is important for our spiritual, emotional, and mental health. It is also important that we practice the steps that can help keep us physically well.

You probably recall this motto of the E.C.L.A.: "God's Work, Our Hands." This means we are partners with God in caring for the well-being of all of God's creation. Just as God's works through our hands, God is also working through our minds, science, and medicines, including vaccinations. You may think that I am overstepping my boundaries, but as a pastor, I am called by God and the Church to watch over the safety and well-being of "the flock." Therefore, if you haven't done so already, I urge you to get vaccinated for COVID 19. Please do this for your sake and the sake of everyone, especially young children who as yet cannot be vaccinated.

Dear Ones, you are very precious to God and to me. Thank you for being my Siblings in Christ. Thank you for supporting the mission, and ministry of God's Church. And thank you for doing your part to help keep people safe and well.

Yours in Christ,

Phil Ruud, Pastor