



# St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

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Rev. Manuel Retamoza and Rev. Sarah Sumner-Eisenbraun, Pastors

February 18, 2021

Dear Members and Friends of St. Andrews:

Greetings as we begin this holy season of Lent. The leadership of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church is happy to share that our congregational council has made the decision to schedule in-person outdoor worship services in the weeks ahead. Our Safe Reopening Team has met and discussed recent developments in COVID-19 safety recommendations and protocols for gatherings. We are pleased to begin this gradual process and feel confident that we will be able to provide as safe an environment as we can so that those who feel comfortable are able to gather in-person for worship.

The pastors have also shared that they are making phone calls to check in with the seniors and Keenagers of our congregation. Almost every person they speak with has been able to receive at least the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. We are all so relieved to hear that our beloved senior population and our frontline workers will now be protected from the most devastating health effects of this virus.

We will begin by offering an in-person worship service this coming **Wednesday, February 24th at 5pm** and again on **Wednesday, March 10 at 5pm**. If you would like to attend one of these in-person services here is what we ask you to do:

- RSVP in advance, either on the Worship Connection Card or by contacting the office (619-464-4211), so that we can prepare based on the expected attendance.
- Bring your own chairs.
- Wear masks the entire time
- Practice physical distancing from those not part of your household.

Please note, **both these in-person services will be outside**. If you plan to attend, please dress appropriately for the weather.

We will provide hand sanitizing stations and will also allow for bathroom usage in case of emergency. We would ask that anyone who makes use of the bathrooms in these circumstances also use provided sanitizing wipes after usage.

All of our midweek Lenten services, including these two in-person services, will be live-streamed through our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/StAndrewsSD](http://www.facebook.com/StAndrewsSD) and available later on our Youtube channel.

We are seeking ushers and other volunteers to help with the set-up, organization, and clean-up of these outdoor services. Our Worship liaison on Council, Rick Bushore, is organizing volunteer support. Please contact him at [rick88b@gmail.com](mailto:rick88b@gmail.com) if you would like to volunteer or call the office for more information.

Thank you for your patience and support during this difficult time.

Sincerely,  
St. Andrew's Congregation Council