

VILLAGE LUTHERAN CHURCH UPDATES ON HEALTH & SAFETY PRACTICES (July 2021)

In view of recent CDC and state guidelines, we are happy to announce the end of most restrictions, starting July 4. The specific updates include the following:

Masks in Worship

- No masks are required for outdoor services.
- Those who are fully vaccinated may choose whether to wear a mask for indoor services, but there is no requirement. Those who feel more comfortable wearing a mask are encouraged to continue doing so.
- Any unvaccinated people are asked to continue wearing a mask indoors.

Church Entrance - One-way entrance and exit will be eliminated. For indoor services, you do not need to use the glass Reception doors. Please come in through the Church Entrance via the large wooden doors.

Social Distancing - All markers in the pews will be removed and seating will not be limited. We continue to avoid shaking hands and encourage good hand hygiene. Hand sanitizer will still be available throughout the facility.

Bulletins and Offerings - Bulletins and Attendance Forms will be available at the normal church entrance. The ushers will collect offerings during the service. Attendance Forms continue to be filled out per individual or family and placed in the offering plate.

Communion Practice - Prepackaged Communion kits with bread and non-alcoholic wine will still be used, but will be distributed by the Pastor via continuous line after consecration (as was our practice before the pandemic).

- Those wanting to receive Communion should come forward during distribution to receive a kit from the pastor, then return to their seats to eat and drink the elements.
- Children and those not receiving may also come forward during distribution for a blessing.
- If you are unable to come forward but would like to receive Communion, please alert the pastor or usher.

Food and Drink - We will return to having light summer refreshments outdoors after the 9:00 service, down by the School Entrance. Many thanks to those who have already volunteered to host! If you would like to sign up for one of the available weeks, please check out the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board or contact Fellowship Coordinator Nelly Palumbo.

Streaming - During the summer, there will be no streaming of the outdoor service at 9:00; however, the 10:45 service will continue to be available online for those who are worshiping from home. Access through Facebook Live or the church website VLC-NY.org.