

**Regathering Covenant:
Loving Your Neighbor as Yourself in a Time of Pandemic**

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Wallingford CT September 2020

In the Baptismal Covenant (The Book of Common Prayer, page 304-5), we affirm our faith in God the Holy Trinity and promise to live out this faith by loving God, our neighbor and ourselves. We are grateful for the St. Paul's Regathering Task Force, Tech Committee, and all who completed the Regathering Survey to help us develop these protocols. Informed by the ECCT Living with COVID-19 Guidelines, we present the following:

What parish worship planners will do

- Faithfully offer liturgy and music in a manner which reflects the best available public health guidance.
- Provide a means for worshipers to sign up in advance to allow for safe physical distancing while maintaining a welcoming environment.
- Provide hand sanitizer at multiple locations.
- Designate properly distanced spaces for outside (and specified pews inside), with directional arrows for traffic flow.
- Wear face masks, and provide face masks for those who don't have them.
- Take attendance and keep contact information in the event contact tracing is necessary.
- Respectfully request those not willing to abide by this Covenant to excuse themselves for the benefit of all.
- Pray for YOU, our parish, the wider community we serve, and this world God so loves.

What you will do

- Take care of yourself and others by not coming to church if you or a household member don't feel well. On such days, please worship with us online or on wpaatv.
- Signup in advance each week you'll be coming to in-person worship, either online or by calling the parish office (leave a message).
- Bring a lawn chair or blanket for yourself and any household members.
- Wear a face mask that covers your mouth and nose.
- Maintain a distance of at least six feet between yourself (or yourself and your household) and others, and respectfully follow all directions regarding traffic flow.
- Consider using the electronic worship bulletin sent out in advance or, if using a paper copy provided at church, follow the ushers' directions and take it with you when you leave.
- Continue using electronic giving or mailing in your pledge, if possible. A stationary offering basket will be available.
- Love our children! For the safety of all, please keep them with you at all times.
- Follow safety instructions given by ushers, clergy or other parish officials.
- Realize that bathroom access will be extremely limited as we don't have the capacity to sanitize between uses. (Contact an usher to direct you in case of emergency.)
- While exiting church, maintain proper physical distance and keep your mask on.
- Pray for our parish community, the wider community we serve, and this world God so loves.

Thank you. Thanks be to God for you.