

October 21, 2020

To: the congregation of St Andrew's Anglican Church – Langley

From: the Vicar

Re: Re-opening the church to in-person worship

Dear Friends,

As you know, St Andrew's Church and the Diocese of New Westminster have been taking a slow and extremely cautious approach to restarting worship in our church buildings during the Covid-19 pandemic. Many of you are also aware that we have been doing our 10am Sunday service online in conjunction with St Dunstan's Anglican Church in Aldergrove. You will have seen me and my spouse David – who is the Rector at St Dunstan's – Zooming the service from our living room.

Beginning on October 25, 2020, we are going to begin Zooming the 10am Sunday service from our two churches on alternate Sundays. The October 25<sup>th</sup> service will be from St Andrew's, the November 1<sup>st</sup> service from St Dunstan's, November 8<sup>th</sup> from St Andrew's, and so on. Through November, we will continue to offer the Service of the Word we have been using since late August, and beginning in Advent (Sunday, November 29 is the first Sunday of Advent), we will be offering a Eucharist service. Please see the attached schedule. We will also continue to hold the 8am Sunday Eucharist and the 10am Thursday Eucharist each week.

You are invited to attend these services in person! There are, however, a few rules and best practices you must follow if you wish to attend in person.

1. You must register in advance for the service by phoning or emailing the office. Please register by noon on the Thursday preceding the service you wish to attend. Only 40 people at a time are permitted to attend.
2. Please wear a mask while attending church.
3. Bathrooms are for emergency use only. Please use the spray disinfectant provided after use.
4. There will be music, but congregants are only permitted to sing quietly or hum while wearing a mask.
5. The service will be projected on the wall. There will be no bulletins or prayer books provided.
6. Congregants must maintain physical distance (6 feet apart) at all times while on church property.
7. When we start Eucharist services in Advent, communion will be received in one form (i.e. only the bread). You must wear a mask when you receive communion, and then

remove your mask and consume the bread once you have returned to your seat. You do not need to receive communion if you do not want to!

8. We will not have any indoor fellowship time or provide any refreshments after the service.

There is no requirement to attend these services in person. You may wish to keep your participation in worship online. This is perfectly fine! **The service will continue to be Zoomed every Sunday at 10am.**

We are so grateful to you for your ongoing patience and support through these challenging times. Please remember to send in or drop off your weekly or monthly financial offering, and consider supporting our building fund, our refugee family, Sources food bank, or the Primate's World Relief & Development Fund. Further Stewardship information is forthcoming.

Also, please stay tuned for information on Advent & Christmas events and services. With your support and encouragement, we are planning a few innovative ways to anticipate and celebrate the coming into the world of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

I invite you to pray the following prayer with us as we continue to navigate this upside-down world:

**Merciful God, in the stillness of our souls we listen for your voice to know again that you are God. Quiet our restless hearts with the knowledge that you are near us, keeping watch over your own. Rekindle our faith and light the lamp of hope within our hearts. Then take us by the hand into each day that lies ahead, for where you lead we can confidently go with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Thank you again, and God Bless. Please drop me a line to let me know how you are holding up!

Love from,

*Andrew*

the Rev Andrew Halladay

Vicar, St Andrew's Church – Langley

Please see below for Worship Schedule

## **Sunday 10am In-Person Worship Schedule**

October 25 – Feast of Dedication Service of the Word at St Andrew's

November 1 – All Saints Service of the Word at St Dunstan's

November 8 – All Souls Service of the Word at St Andrew's

November 15 – 24<sup>th</sup> after Pentecost Service of the Word at St Dunstan's

November 22 – Reign of Christ Service of the Word at St Andrew's

November 29 – Advent 1 Holy Eucharist at St Dunstan's

December 6 – Advent 2 Holy Eucharist at St Andrew's

December 13 – Advent 3 Holy Eucharist at St Dunstan's

December 20 – Advent 4 Holy Eucharist at St Andrew's

December 24 – Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist various times & locations

December 25 – Christmas Morning Holy Eucharist at St Andrew's

December 27 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas Holy Eucharist at St Dunstan's

January 3 – Epiphany Holy Eucharist at St Andrew's