

Emmanuel Newsletter Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Sunday, June 27, 2021

Dear Friends,

This week we will continue our in-person outdoor service at Emmanuel Church. We will also continue to have our Zoom service of Evening Prayer with Dialogue Sermon on **Saturday, June 26th, at 5:00 p.m**.

In the Gospel of Mark, we read the story of Jairus' daughter who was dying. Jairus pleads with Jesus to save his daughter who is only 12 years old. Jesus heals her. Jesus' compassion shows us how to act as his follower in healing our world. Made in God's image we are called to be mirrors of his love.

You will have both the outdoor in-person service lessons and Holy Eucharist AND the online Zoom liturgy available to download and print. We ask that you bring your own printed copy of the service on Sunday, for the in-person Eucharist.

Come on Saturday for a Zoom service and Dialogue OR on Sunday for the Holy Eucharist.

May God bless us all as we move into a new phase of our life together.

BELOW PLEASE READ A PORTION OF THE NEWEST DIOCESAN GUIDELINES FOR COVID PROTOCOLS. More details are available on the diocesan website at: diomass.org.

Yours in Christ, The Rev. Joyce Caggiano Priest in Residence, Emmanuel, West Roxbury

Diocesan COVID Directives June 2021

In all instances, clergy and vestries who conclude that practices which are more restrictive than those that follow are best in their local context will have our fullest support.

1

Worship

- Effective immediately, and until June 30, **indoor in-person worship should be limited to 60% of building capacity.** This six-week phase allows for continued expansion of vaccination rates, and the observation of any consequences following swift re-openings in other contexts. Capacity restrictions will be fully lifted July 1, unless statistics warrant a revision to this plan.
- We urge you to continue to observe **physical distancing between households** in order to protect those who are not yet fully vaccinated. Per CDC guidelines, **those who are not yet vaccinated should continue wearing a face covering and maintain physical distance**. We encourage all worshipers to maintain these precautions in order to protect one another.
- **Outdoor services are strongly encouraged**; no attendance limits are prescribed for such worship.
- At the Passing of the Peace, physical contact is discouraged. A slight bow or a hand to the heart remains the safer option.
- In the **sharing of Holy Eucharist**, please use wafers for the distribution of Communion in one kind only. Refrain from using the common cup; individually pre-packaged wine may be used, if desired. While we hope for a future revision of these restrictions, they remain in effect until further notice.
- **Indoor singing** by *fully vaccinated people wearing masks*, has been deemed by the CDC to be a safe activity. Accordingly, singing may be permitted by those fulfilling these conditions. Outdoor singing is permitted. Continued physical distancing, indoors and out, is important for anyone singing.
- We hope that congregations will **continue to offer virtual opportunities** to gather, even when in-person worship and formation resume. This is not only to protect those who are not yet fully vaccinated, but also to benefit from our experience of the past year in reaching a broader circle through online worship and fellowship.
- Churches **no longer need to submit a plan for regathering**; however, we count on vestries and regathering teams to strategize about how best to respond in your specific context. We want to support you in those conversations, so feel free to e-mail Canon Bill Parnell (<u>bparnell@diomass.org</u>) to arrange a consultation with a regathering shepherd.

Fellowship and Pastoral Care

• Coffee hour and other events with food and drinks may resume. We ask that you plan carefully about how food and drinks are served. Individually wrapped foods and designated servers, as opposed to potlucks or buffets, are a safer option.

• Continue to exercise caution when making **in-person pastoral visits**. Brief visits with minimal physical proximity are safer, especially for those who are most vulnerable due to illness or age.



PRAYER LIST

We ask that you keep in your prayers the following persons: Paul; Mary; Catherine and Brant; Carla; Michael; Parker; Sergio, Martha, Paul B and Gail.

(Please email us the names of those who need special prayers---info@emmanuelwr.org. Only first names will be used.)



NOTE: LIVE ZOOM SERVICE IS AT 5:00 PM this Saturday, June 26, 2021.

Join Zoom Service: https://zoom.us/j/97440036881?pwd=WUxBQ2RJMIN4eWw1cXhRcFU4c0tBQT09

Meeting ID: 974 4003 6881

Passcode: 133776 After 7:00 pm on Saturday, view the TAPED Saturday service anytime via our website or YouTube site:

www.emmanuelwr.org

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEQm5KH2wGB_XbZ8h9jIdhA

Have a comment? Email us at: info@emmanuelwr.org



Mark Your Calendars! SUNDAY, JUNE 27TH AT 10:00 AM, IN-PERSON SERVICES OUTDOORS AT EMMANUEL CHURCH.

Bring your own chair/blanket, a friend, and wear a mask.