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LOVE • TRANSFORM • SERVE

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Pentecost 2021

Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God’s mysteries. <sup>2</sup>Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. 1 Corinthians 4:1-2

Beloved,

As we continue to emerge from the global pandemic that is still ongoing, it is uplifting to see more and more people comfortable attending worship in-person on Sunday morning. The Cross of Hope community’s flexibility, understanding and adherence to our COVID policy is appreciated and impressive.

As our posted advisory states, we will continue to adopt CDC and state guidance as a part of our policy discernment. Thus the Congregation Council has updated our COVID policy:

**We will all continue to wear masks until you are fully vaccinated or the guidance changes. Masks are optional for those who are two weeks past their last prescribed COVID-19 vaccination shot (thus deemed ‘fully vaccinated’).**

We will continue to offer space that allows appropriate distancing, communion servers will wear gloves and individual glasses will be used, our communal singing and speaking will be limited, and we expect you to stay home if showing symptoms of illness.

As your Pastor, I encourage you to get vaccinated if you have not done so yet (<https://cvvaccine.nmhealth.org/>), be honest as stewards of the community, and be gracious, courteous, and kind to one another. Personally, while fully vaccinated, I will continue to wear a mask until my kids are able to be vaccinated both for their health and to model the shared journey. Thanks be to God the vaccines are proving very effective at stopping the spread of COVID while at the same time children under 12 are not yet eligible for the vaccine, and health experts are still discerning the effectiveness in the vulnerable immune-compromised. We appreciate your continued honesty and care for one another.

During the pandemic, the safest place to gather continues to be outside. As the heat of the New Mexican summer rises, we’ll adjust our worship offerings:

*Digital worship* – for walk-up communion, you may come at 9:30 to receive communion at the end of the outdoor worship.

*Outside worship* **at 9am starting June 6<sup>th</sup> through Labor Day weekend**

*Indoor worship* **at 10:15 starting June 6<sup>th</sup> through Labor Day weekend**

*A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*



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OF HOPE**  
Church & School

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The pandemic calls us to prioritize health, safety, and hospitality. Thank you for understanding how times, places and styles need to be adjusted for these priorities during this time. God is faithful and we will continue to faithfully experience God through our worship life as we continue to emerge from this pandemic.

God's love hold us together for a little bit longer and we can all abound as faith-filled as ever beyond pandemic!

On behalf of the Congregation Council,  
In the hope of Peace,

R. Adam Berndt, Pastor



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