



Dear National City Church Family,

We're all gearing up to head into the fall and, though we had hoped things would be "back to normal," we're all well aware that we continue to navigate this pandemic and our lives have been changed forever. Thank you for your patience and care for each other during this time of learning how to do church under these circumstances. The staff and our amazing volunteers deserve our gratitude for their hard work and innovative spirit.

As we've been announcing for some time, we will be back in person for worship beginning **Sunday, September 12, 2021, at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary**. Services will continue to be livestreamed on Facebook and [YouTube](#). Sunday school will take place in the atrium at 9:00 a.m. We will not have in person coffee hour until further notice.

Because of the very contagious new variants of COVID, we will closely follow local health officials' directives. Here's a summary of what we expect:

- First of all, if you are able, please make sure you are fully vaccinated.
- When you arrive at church, please stop at one of the registration tables. If you have a smart phone, scan the QR code, and please fill in your information for contact tracing purposes.
- Inside the church building, masks must be worn at all times unless individually leading worship.
- We know it will be good to see each other, but please work to keep social distancing to keep each other safe. Smiles, waves, elbow bumps...all of these help us keep safe distance and make sure we're not spreading any germs.
- We won't be able to sing maskless; it's just not safe. So be ready to listen or hum along or sing those hymns with your mask on.

- At the beginning of worship we'll read a statement like this one to help everybody know what we expect:

“As we gather for in-person worship, we remember that we are followers of Jesus Christ, and as such are mandated to care for the well-being of all of our neighbors. To that end, our community expects that everyone attending in-person worship who is eligible for vaccination will have been vaccinated; that masks are worn inside the building at all times; and that we greet each other warmly with the protection of appropriate social distancing. Think of these actions as actions of faith, and join us as we actively care for our neighbors.”

Another chapter in our story begins this fall, and none of us knows quite what to expect. But we will continue to be the people of God right here on Thomas Circle, witnesses for the love and justice of Jesus Christ in this very powerful city. Thank you for being part of this beautiful community; I look forward to seeing you in person.

With God's Peace,

Pastor Amy