

It has been quite a full week as things begin to return to "normal"--whatever that is besides our sister city. So, here are a few quick thoughts this week.

1. It looks like, God willing, Illinois will enter Phase IV next Friday. I have been asked what that means for us, and do not have answers at this time. I hope that we will continue to expand our ability to gather as a community. I will keep you updated as things evolve.

2. Weather permitting we will hold our 10AM service outdoors on July 5. While we cannot do a potluck or a cookout at this time, I encourage everyone to bring a "picnic" lunch so that we may fellowship on the lawn.

3. I was reminded yesterday by Deacon Tim that today (6/19) is the anniversary of my ordination to the sacred order of priest. Thank you, Tim. I find it impossible to believe that I have been a priest for 16 years. Where has the time gone? In any event, I want to thank each and every one of you for your love and support.

Might I ask that you join me in the prayer for Clergy and People today?

Almighty and everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift: Send down upon our bishops, and other clergy, and upon the congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honor of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen. (BCP 817).

With love and blessings,

Dave+
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Ministry Links

St. Matthew's Webpage
The Episcopal Diocese of
Springfield
Rector's Blog ([new](#))
Find us on Instagram--stmattsblm
Twitter--@BloomingtonSt



Continuing Worship Guidance

St. Matthew's is authorized to have 40 individuals present at any given service.

With this new information we will be returning to our regular, or normal, schedule Sunday morning. There is no need to make reservations for these services.

For the near future, coffee hour must take place outside, and is tough to plan on short notice. A short fellowship time will take place outside following the service.

The guidance regarding masking and singing (below) still holds.

1. All are reminded to take their own health issues into consideration when deciding whether to attend. Also, stay home if you have any symptoms that are not associated with a chronic health issue.

2. Most services will be spoken/read services. A cantor is allowed to sing, but congregants are asked to refrain.

3. All individuals who are in the building must maintain physical distance and have a face covering, unless actively leading a portion of the service.

4. Each service will have color coded seats in the Nave. Families are allowed to sit together.

5. Only the restrooms in the addition will be available for use.

6. The 10AM service will continue to be streamed "live" on Facebook. If you are uncomfortable being in the worship space and still wish to commune, communion will still be available via the "drive-through" for 30 minutes after the service. It is expected that "drive-through" communion will not continued to be offered after the 28 of June.

Schedule for the week beginning 14 June

Sunday 7:30AM Rite I Holy Eucharist

10:00AM Rite II Holy Eucharist (also streamed)

Thursday

7:30 AM Morning Prayer with Holy Communion

June 21st, the Third Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 7):

Sunday Eucharist Outline is [here](#).

Full Service is [here](#).

Added Note: Please bring your own printed copy, or electronic device from home to avoid cross contamination in the Nave.

Both bulletins have the music included, so there is no need to touch the hymnals.

**Outreach Opportunities
ITEMS-OF-THE-MONTH**

A Big Thank You for your support of Advent! We have received confirmation that his funds arrived and school is in progress.

Meals

Thank you for the generous outpouring of support for this ministry. The freezer is quite full at this time.

We also have packages of Tender Mercies meals from Midwest Food Bank.

If you, or someone you know, need(s) a meal at this time please let us know, or stop by the office when it is open.

The Daily Devotional Reading

is available by clicking of the link below:
[Good News Daily](#)

Worship Serving Schedule

As noted above in the Phase III Reopening/Recovery article: all servers volunteer directly with Fr. Dave for the masses on Sunday.

We will resume traditional scheduling as events allow.

Thank you again, and may God bless you.

Birthdays & Anniversaries June 21 - 27

Anniversaries
Patty & Jack Pitts

Birthdays
Christian Pitts
Sarah Pitts

Dedications for this week:

3rd Sunday after Pentecost, June 21st

O Lord, we beseech thee, make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name, for thou never failest to help and govern those whom thou hast set upon the sure foundation of thy loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

Contact Information

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church