



Grace in the Desert Episcopal Church

New COVID-19 Protocols

A message from Michael Yackira (Senior Warden) dated May 15th, 2021.

I received a letter yesterday from the Nevada Episcopal Diocese relating to the Centers of Disease Control recommended changes for people who have been fully vaccinated regarding mask wearing, social distancing, and other measures. As a result, the Diocese has authorized the resumption of services beginning on Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd, with no requirements for distancing or mask-wearing for those who have been fully vaccinated. We may also resume singing and passing of the Peace.

We are required to continue to take reservations for attendees or otherwise keep a record of who has attended services for the purpose of contact tracing in case an attendee were to contract COVID-19. If you contract the disease after attending a service, you must notify the Grace in the Desert office so that we may notify the Diocese and the county Health Department, and you must not attend church again until you have had a negative COVID test.

If you have not been vaccinated, you will be required to wear a mask and maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from other parishioners. This will be based on the “honor system,” so when you check in for the service, you will be asked to let us know whether or not you have been vaccinated.

This is certainly welcome news, but it requires work on the part of your Vestry and the clergy regarding additional services, if any, other than our current 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. We will provide more information later this coming week.

I do have one request: we are in desperate need of additional ushers for our services. If you feel a calling to volunteer for this ministry, please contact [Ra Simmons](#) or [Walt Kadyk](#).

You will continue in my prayers for your health and safety.

Michael