



St. Andrews by the Sea Uniting Church **92 Jetty Rd. Glenelg 5045**
Christian community in the heart of Glenelg

27 June 2020

Dear Friends,

The love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ and the communion of the Spirit be with you.

Our Church Council met on Thursday to outline a COVID Safe Plan for the opening of gathered worship. Firstly, thank you for your patience and support during this time of transition when many Government and Synod requirements need our attention.

Church Council selected **19 July** as a trial for communal worship. This will give us the time we need to put things in place. When you arrive on the day, everyone will be required to sign in (see below). These sheets will be kept in the office throughout the pandemic so authorities can notify attendees if there is a confirmed COVID case. Hand sanitiser will be available which everyone is required to use as they enter for worship.

For hygiene and distancing purposes, we will meet in the church hall. Due to the extra set up and COVID safety procedures, we will begin worship at **10:00 am**. **Please attempt to arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the start to allow for hand sanitising and sign in.**

It is highly recommended by the Synod Crisis Management Team that worship not include singing and we not serve morning tea at this time. Singing in an indoor space significantly increases the chances of spreading disease and not serving morning tea will limit our need to manage surface contact. We encourage those who wish to share a cuppa or meal at a café or in one another's homes afterward.

During this season of transition, we will continue to provide (via post and email) the At Home worship resources. Printed copies will be available and used for those who choose to gather on Sunday. This will bring continuity between what has been and what is and it will maintain connection with those who cannot/do not gather.

Finally, those who are vulnerable to COVID-19 are strongly urged to consider carefully what is best for their health and safety. If you fall into the Government definition of vulnerable at this time, it is suggested you **speak with your family and doctor about your participation in worship**. It is our hope that continuing to provide the At Home Worship Resource will enable everyone to feel included.

Vulnerable people are those over 70 years old, those over 60 with a chronic health condition, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people over 50 years old with a chronic medical condition, and people with compromised immune systems.

Many aspects of life have changed and worship is no exception. Some differences may be easy to implement and even welcomed. Others may be harder to accept or bring up a myriad of feelings for us. Please speak with your Pastoral Partner or a member of Church Council. We are here to listen and watch with faith and hope as the future continues to emerge. We pray our joy in being together and the warmth of hospitality we provide one another amidst the physical distance will shine through.

In the service of Christ,
Christine

**PLEASE READ THE DECLARATION BELOW CAREFULLY.
YOU WILL BE ASKED TO SIGN THIS DECLARATION WHEN YOU ARRIVE FOR WORSHIP
OR WHENEVER YOU ENTER THE CHURCH FOR ANY REASON.**

Sign in Register

I, the undersigned declare that:

- I have not returned from international or interstate travel in the last 14 days.
- I have not been exposed to a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
- I am not currently required to self-isolate for any other reason.
- I am well, and not displaying any symptoms of COVID-19.
- I will practice good hand hygiene and utilise the hand washing and sanitiser facilities made available for this purpose.
- I will follow all reasonable steps requested by the St. Andrew's by the Sea Uniting Church to ensure the health and safety of all other personnel and visitors.