



ST. ANTHONY ON THE DESERT EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
MINISTRIES FOR CHRIST CENTERED SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING

## Updated Guidelines for Worship

Effective May 1, 2021

Citing increased daily vaccination rates, our diocese has issued revised guidelines for worship during the pandemic that supersede all previous guidelines. The new guidelines take effect May 1. Where authorized to do so, our Interim Rector and Vestry will adapt these new guidelines to specific worship and ministry practices at St. Anthony and keep the parish informed about resulting changes.

Here are the new guidelines:

- **Mask wearing continues to be MANDATORY at all Episcopal gatherings and worship.**
- Churches may gather for worship, education or other events at up to 50% of the capacity of the room in use, provided that social distancing can be maintained at the increased capacity.
- Congregations may choose to resume receiving communion in both kinds, but only via intinction into a chalice with a small amount of wine, so that fingers cannot come into contact with the wine.
- Congregational and choral singing can resume as approved by clergy and vestry. A reminder that all singers and musicians must be masked.
- Coffee hour and events involving food may take place outdoors only.
- All classes and events may resume so long as they follow the guidelines of mask wearing, social distancing, room capacity, and guidelines about food consumption.
- If someone who attended an event at church is thereafter diagnosed with COVID, people who attended the event should be notified that they may have been exposed to the virus. But there is no longer a requirement to pause worship or ministry.