



CHRIST CHURCH
DARTMOUTH

June 16, 2021

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we enter Phase 2 of the province's reopening plan, we at Christ Church feel we can again proceed with in-person services. This Sunday, we will be celebrating the National Indigenous Day of Prayer. Our service is already planned, and we are delighted to have guest speaker Geri Musqua-LeBlanc with us as she shares her story with us.

Sunday's service will be live-streamed and *therefore not in person*. Our regular worship schedule returns for in-person worship on June 27th with two services: 8:00am BCP (said service), and 10:00am BAS

Based on Dr. Strang's guidelines, we can accommodate 45 people at each service which is 25 percent of our capacity up to 50. Attending worshipers must be masked, even if one has received vaccination(s). Preregistration is required via the parish website or phone. Currently, we are checking on the guidelines for communal singing. Once we know this information, we will pass it along to the parish. Tessa Short, our music leader, will be our soloist until we can all raise our voices again!

As in the past, we continue to work with the diocese and the province as we safely reopen the parish for worship. I know many of us are anxious to return to "normal," but as medical officials have said, "we are not there yet."

Many of you have privately or publicly indicated to me that you have received a vaccine or both. I have had my first dose and am looking forward to my second. Currently, 65.7% of Canada's population has received a first dose of vaccination. In Nova Scotia, we are at 67% vaccination rate for a first dose. As the numbers increase, many of us may feel a collective relief.

One of the things we should note is that circumstances are not the same for everyone. I have heard from some that "I won't return to church until everyone is vaccinated." Together we must recognize that some members of our population cannot receive a vaccination due to various health reasons, for example, people with a history of specific allergies.

Even as we return to a more normal state, I suspect that we will continue to see people wearing masks in the community, including the church. Just because we see someone wearing a mask does not mean that they have been vaccinated. As you may know, there was little to no flu season this year due to masking and hygiene practices.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the parish office or me.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

The Rev. Dr. Kyle Wagner
Rector, Christ Church, Dartmouth