

“The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing.” (Stephen Covey)

My wife rearranged the kitchen a few days ago. As many of you know, I am a creature of habit and familiarity. A rearranged kitchen was very distracting - the toaster is over there, the spatulas are in here, the fruit is stacked over here. Where is everything???

So when we gather for our first 10:30 service, you may be a bit distracted. In order to be as careful as possible, we have had to rearrange a few things as well.

For example, there will be no holy water in the font by the little entrance. In fact, the main doors that lead out to the academy parking lot will be locked. Everyone will need to enter through the double glass doors leading from the back parking lot. You will see social distancing markers as you enter. These will allow you to wait at a safe distance until you can be seated by an usher.

Once inside the nave, you will notice that there are no prayer books, no hymnals, no pens or pencils, no doodle pads and no Kleenex in the pews. They will be bare and the service will be projected on the screens. You will receive a bulletin with an order of service and announcements.

At the offertory, there will be no physical passing of the peace and no passing of the plate. Instead, the offering plate will be next to the main door as you enter and leave.

We will all be wearing masks even when we read scripture, celebrate eucharist and preach. Music will be sing by musicians, but no congregational singing will be allowed. Your communion will be on a small appetizer plate found on a large tray at the altar rail. A family representative will come up and receive the cup, return to their pew and distribute communion to the family. Masks can be removed only to consume the host.

So yes, our “kitchen” is going to be rearranged. Things will look very different. However, the main thing will still happen. We will gather as the Body of Christ to receive the Body of Christ. We will be able to enjoy corporate worship as a body even though we will be socially distanced from one another.

It may look and feel very different, but the main thing is still the main thing – we worship together, pray together and break bread together. Together we will encounter the risen Christ in the sacrament and in one another.

Please reserve your spot and join us on September 13 at 10:30. We will continue to live stream the service so that anyone who is not willing or able to gather for an indoor service can still join us for a virtual worship experience. Additionally, our 8am outdoor service will continue outdoors as long as the weather allows it.

Be safe and be blessed!

Peace,

Mike+