

Time-Specific Covid-19 Protocols at First United
For the months of December 2021 and January of 2022

During the pandemic, the Church Council and Covid-19 taskgroup has upheld the safety and well-being of our Community of Faith. Throughout, we have monitored and complied with evolving public health recommendations and regulations, choosing to implement practices with the utmost caution.

Negotiating pandemic life is complex for both individuals and communities especially given changes in Covid-19 variants, differences in risk-tolerance, choices made in response to individual physical and mental health, and vaccination rates. This complexity has demanded changes in our community practices and requires ongoing compromises by all of us.

For December and January, Church Council is adopting the following time-specific practices and will continue to adapt to evolving pandemic circumstances in both the short-term and the long-term.

1. Maintenance of Hybrid Sunday Services

We will continue to offer a hybrid in-person/zoom service for adults and youth/children on Sundays. For December and January, we are adapting previous practices in the following ways.

- a) Continue to require masking and physical distancing and conduct children and youth programming in separate spaces throughout the morning. Youth and children attending are encouraged to participate in the children and youth programming.
- b) In the screening process, request proof of double vaccination for those aged 12 and over.
- c) Dispense with weekly Sunday registration, though we request that persons let the office know when considering attending for the first time.

With these safety measures in place, we can safely increase capacity to between 80 to 90, maintain congregational singing, and begin to feature the choir in congregational leadership. To maintain ventilation, we have the windows and back door cracked open so dress accordingly.

All Saint's Anglican have adopted similar protocols and have about 50 to 75 gathering each Sunday.

2. Mid-week Activities

In keeping with Provincial public health regulations, mid-week access to the building and mid-week events require demonstrated proof of full vaccination for those over 12 years of age.

3. Christmas Eve

6:00 A half-hour outdoor Family Service beneath the Courtyard Christmas lights. with carol singing, story-telling, and a candle lighting ritual. Masking within the courtyard is required.

8:00 Hybrid In-person/Zoom Service adherence to the same safety protocols of Sunday Services with the exception that registration with the office is necessary. We will not include a Celebration of Holy Communion in this service but will include a candle lighting ceremony.