



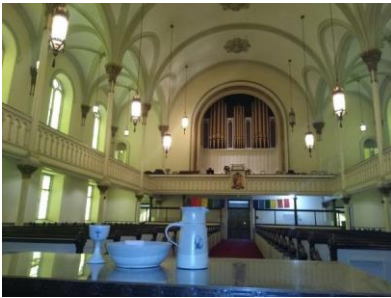
The First Church

in Albany
est. 1642

Message from the Re-opening Committee

Update to First Church Re-Opening Plan

Sanctuary Service Protocols as of September 26, at 10am



While we are so very excited to be returning to the Sanctuary of The First Church in Albany for in-person worship, we ask for everyone's understanding and participation with the protocols we must still follow to ensure the safety and health of our brothers and sisters.

- Masks are mandatory while in the building. Social distancing must be followed. Masks will be available at the entrance if you forget to bring your own. Hand sanitizer will be available
- **All may now enter and leave through their door of choice.** ~~All will enter from the Sheridan Ave. parking lot and exit at the North Pearl Street door. The exceptions will be for those who need the elevator or the ramp~~
- Deacons will direct people to their seats. The Sanctuary has been measured for social distancing. The doors will be open on available pews. The doors will be closed on all other pews
- The balcony will be closed
- **You may now sing with your mask on!** ~~There will be no congregational singing.~~ Music will be provided by organ, piano or guest musicians instrumentation
- Prepackaged communion elements will be provided by a Deacon, or you can bring your own
- We ask that you take your bulletin and communion cups home with you
- There will be no physical passing of the peace (i.e. handshake, hug)
- There will be no coffee hour
- Cleaning will be done before and after the services by our sextons
- If you have been ill in the past 2 weeks, or have been with a person who has tested positive for Covid-19, or have been recently in a large group, please remain at home and join us using Zoom or Conference call for the worship service. These links can be found on our website

As has been the case throughout the pandemic, our re-opening committee will continue to monitor guidance from the CDC, as well as state and local health department leadership for updates to this protocol. We are grateful for their attention and dedication to our collective safety for these many months.