



Northwest Washington Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

January 4, 2022

Dear Beloveds of Northwest Washington Synod,

As the omicron variant continues to spread, we encourage your congregation's COVID-19 Safety Teams to review the protocols for your in-person worship and gatherings – mindful that many will need to return to more stringent procedures for the time being.

Meeting online is the safest option for now.

IF you plan to meet in-person, for the safety of all, please follow county, state, and CDC guidelines (in that order). Additionally, we recommend you:

1. Emphasize the importance of vaccinations for those attending in-person
2. Require masks for all throughout service – including speakers and musicians
3. Thoroughly clean high-touch surfaces
4. Review your Holy Communion distribution practice
5. Consider no congregational singing

As we continue to grapple with this pandemic, we are grateful for your faithfulness, your love for each other, and your care-filled reflection.

In the Hope of Christ,

+Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee