

All ELCA Congregations received a letter from the Bishop's Office this week. Due to the surge of Omicron Covid, its higher degree of infectiousness, and the adequacy of former safeguards, the Synod Office offered recommendations.

To insure the highest level of safety, the recommendation was to cancel indoor Worship for the coming weeks. If congregations, like ours, choose to meet, the advice was to firm up physical distancing while at Worship. Social distance should also be observed in the Narthex. (Lobby area) On the way to Communion, please follow the taped crosses on the floor of the central aisle.

Also, the cloth masks of last year are NOT as effective against the Omicron variant, so procuring K, or N95 masks is advised instead.

The Worship and Music Committee has encouraged us to keep our doors open and continue to meet in the church for weekly Worship. Services will continue on Sundays at 8am and 10:30am, as per the usual schedule. We will not close down indoor Worship for now.

The choir will not be singing during this surge. We will now return to humming, or softly singing the hymns while wearing our masks. All masks must remain over the mouth AND nose.

My hope and belief is that this too shall pass. It is simply a setback for now. Please know that Good Shepherd does have more Covid positive members now, than at any other time...seven at last count. Fortunately, because they have been vaccinated and boosted, their symptoms are mild. Keep them in your prayers for speedy recovery.

I look forward to worshiping with you, my family in Christ, either in person, or recorded Worship.

LV  
PD