

## REMINDER

Dear Friends in Christ,  
Covid is here in Montana and it is spreading. And that spread is requiring to change our lives in order to follow Christ's command to love one another. We may not be able to control the virus through a vaccine or a cure yet, but we can limit how, when and where Covid-19 spreads. And for those of us who are followers of Christ and caretakers of all the members of Christ's body, the church, we have a responsibility to slow the spread in our congregations even as we gather again in limited ways for worship.

As I have done before and will continue to do, I urge you to follow all the best safe practices for your context. And be ready to pivot on a dime as the virus enters your communities in more evident ways. Take a little control over Covid by wearing a mask which reduces the spread greatly, especially in closed in areas where we share the air. (My brother got me a set of Minnesota Vikings masks that you may see me in. Sorry Packers fans!) Take a little control over Covid by forsaking meals or goodies together for awhile (you can't eat with masks on). Help your pastor and council lead by following their guidance instead of pushing back.

And if Covid comes to your town, be as ready to shut your worship space down as you were to open it up.

Remember, Christ's church is never closed; we just need to do our part find new ways to be church together, love and care for one another, a follow Christ into God's future as this virus moves through our lives.

So hang in there, beloved, and care about one another. We are in this together and God will get us through it. Grieve the loses together but also celebrate the joys of new life happening in your midst. For God is with us, bringing new life out of death. Always!

Bishop Laurie