

April 8, 2021

Dear Saints,

Christ is risen! These words take on a new and deeper sense as the Covid-19 pandemic continues throughout the world. These words reframe our lives and lead us deeper in our relationship with the living Lord.

As I've said numerous times over the last month, I am encouraged by the number of folks in our fellowship who have received their vaccinations or are already scheduled for one in the near future. It brings a sense of peace after a chaotic year. I am happy to report that I, too, have received both of my vaccinations.

Our Session met on Wednesday evening. We discussed our life together in worship and discerned that we are at a safe place to return to in-person worship. Our first Sunday back in the sanctuary together will be Sunday, April 25th.

While Covid cases in Western PA have plateaued and remain relatively high, we sense that the rate of vaccinations in our congregation and continuing observance of CDC guidance places us in a position to join in life together as safely as possible. Additionally, for those who may be hesitant to return at this time or are unable to, livestreaming will continue on Facebook.

Our Session also set a date to celebrate our life together as pastor and congregation. The Installation Service will be held on Sunday, May 23rd, at 3:00 p.m.

As a reminder, all those who plan to attend in-person worship are required to wear masks that cover the nose and mouth. Fellowship foods and coffee will be discontinued for the time being. Additionally, we ask you to observe social distancing in the sanctuary as much as possible. To ensure proper ventilation, we'll also have the windows opened.

I am glad to share this news with you and look forward to being together again.

Love big, Be well!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal line above the name.