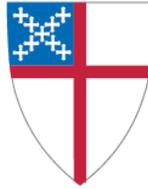


CHRIST CHURCH ITHAN
VILLANOVA, PA



ST. MARTIN'S
RADNOR, PA

October 8, 2020

Dear friends,

I am so happy to have been with you for a month now, and to have worshipped in each church over several weeks. Both churches are beautiful and have musicians that lead us toward God in praise. The outdoor service at Christ Church has been a blessing of community during the isolation of the coronavirus pandemic. St. Martin's and Christ Church are enduring communities of faith that each have their own gifts to bring to our covenant relationship.

One of the gifts we have right now is two buildings in which our communities can more safely worship during our pandemic-changed times. As the bishop has written, it is safest to worship at home, but for those who are healthy and comfortable being present, the in-person services have been a bright spot. Given our current in-person attendance and the coming winter weather, the wardens, vestries and I have decided that we will offer indoor Sunday services on the following schedule between November 1, 2020 and February 14th 2021 (All Saints' Day to the Last Sunday after the Epiphany):

8:30 am: Holy Eucharist, Rite II, with music at St. Martin's Church

9:30 am: Sunday School continues on Zoom

10:30 am: Holy Eucharist, Rite II, with music at Christ Church Ithan (livestreamed online)

Additional services may be added mid-week or later in the day on Sundays and this schedule may change based on revised health guidelines. We will be evaluating this schedule and how well it works for us before we commit to a schedule for Lent and Easter.

The reasons for this change are that outdoor worship may soon become difficult in the morning hours due to weather, that we are living into our covenant relationship and sharing worship together is part of that, and that duplicating services at the same times in two places takes energy away from other activities we may do together. I hope that you will reach out with feedback to me, to the wardens or to other members of your vestries, so we can see how this is working for both communities. We will make further changes as conditions change and as we work together more. I know it will take some getting used to if the service you regularly attend is at the other church, and that we will all feel some displacement as we get used to this. Being together more regularly and growing our relationships will be the blessing that we get in return for a bit of change and learning a new pattern.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

In Christ's Peace
Pastor Veronika