



*“Do not fear, for I am with you,  
do not be afraid, for I am your God;  
I will strengthen you, I will help you,  
I will uphold you with my victorious  
right hand.”  
Isaiah 41:10 NRSV*

Dear Saint Andrew members and friends,

We give thanks to God that in the wilderness of our world God has continued to walk with us, and for the strong and innovative ministry continues with your participation, prayers, and support.

Saint Andrew Lutheran Church is planning an outdoor worship service at [State Park Speedway, 147711 N. Mountain Rd, Wausau, WI 54401](#), on **Sunday, August 16 at 9:00 am.**

We are excited at the prospect of coming together to worship, and cognizant of the issues that the reality of Covid-19 presents around gathering together in person. Every precaution will be taken to make the gathering as safe as possible. We also feel the frustration that the shape of the gathering will not look like how we remember Sunday morning. Rev. Matthew Short, Assistant to the Bishop for Evangelical Mission in the Greater Milwaukee Synod shared with the synod’s leadership that, “our templates are broken,” we have to find new shapes for our daily lives, and our gatherings together.

This is the “template” that we are going to use for this gathering:

### **HEALTH PRECAUTIONS**

- Everyone who will be assisting with the service will be masked, and, where necessary, wearing gloves.
- We ask that you wear a mask while are on the grounds.
- It is expected that all who attend will walk straight to the bleachers upon arrival and leave the grounds immediately after worship. For the safety of all, fellowship will not be allowed.
- Register for the service for both contact tracing purposes, the same as when you enter the church building, and so there are sufficient elements on hand for Holy Communion. Please contact the church by Noon on Thursday, August 13 to register.

### **GATHERING**

- Ushers will direct parking when you arrive, where to enter the grandstands, and where to sit.
- If you feel uncomfortable climbing the stands, the first row will be reserved for you, or you can bring a lawn chair and have a seat in the grass area in front of the bleachers.
- A bulletin will be available electronically to use on devices during worship to follow along or feel free to print it and bring it along.
- When the service is over, the ushers will guide an orderly dismissal.
- If weather does not permit us to gather on August 16, we will reschedule the gathering for the following Sunday, August 23. Notices will be posted on the SALC website and Facebook page if this happens.

### **SERVICE**

- Music for the service will be pre-recorded – there will be no congregational singing.
- An offering will be received in boxes placed in the gathering area for a “no contact” collection.
- A physical Passing of the Peace will not take place.

## HOLY COMMUNION

- When you enter, you will receive the elements in commercially pre-packaged Fellowship Cups containing bread and grape juice. Please hold on to these because we will commune together during the service.
- If you plan to attend, please prayerfully consider delivering communion to someone who is unable to attend. We will assist you in making the contact and arrangements, and provide you with extra elements for this purpose.
- If you are unable to attend and wish to receive communion, we ask that you be willing to have someone from Saint Andrew bring communion to your home.
- To plan accordingly, please inform us of your choice so that preparations can be made for the elements to be distributed both at the service and afterwards.

Our commitment to you and to the mission of Saint Andrew continues to be strong even as we long to be together for worship, learning, witness, and service. While waiting to gather has been and still is difficult, we believe this is the safest approach for our community and for Saint Andrew. This gathering is a trial to gauge both the effectiveness of the procedures in place, the response of the community, and help us shape what our gathering in person may be like. While we may not get this perfect, we will continue to focus on the One who is.

In Christ's love and care,

Rev. Jenn Collins

Rev. Justin Smoot

Kerry Fehrman  
Council President

Russ Van Skike  
"Plan to Gather" Chairperson

## Saint Andrew Lutheran Church

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