

Trinity Lutheran Church
COVID-19 Transition Team Lay Communion Ministry Guidelines
Adopted April 16, 2021

These guidelines are established using recommendations from the CDC, SC DHEC, ELCA, and SC Synod. Due to the nature of the circumstances, this policy will be periodically reviewed, and is subject to change without notice.

The Lay Communion Ministry was suspended in March, 2020 due to the COVID pandemic. With the availability of effective vaccines and the decrease in COVID case numbers since their peak in January 2021, the Lay Communion Ministry can be safely resumed, using the measures known to be effective in the prevention of COVID 19.

- The communion elements will be prepared by a church staff member wearing a mask with sanitized hands and placed inside a zip lock bag.
- Lay Communion Assistants must be fully vaccinated and wear a mask throughout the visit to the home.
- Lay Communion Assistants must not make a visit within 10 days of a possible COVID illness.
- The Lay Communion Assistant must sanitize his or her hands upon entering the home; and again after removing the box of elements from the zip lock bag and opening the box but BEFORE handling the elements.
- A list indicating to whom and when Lay Communion Assistants make their visits will be maintained in the church office, in case of the need for case contact tracing.
- If a Lay Communion Assistant becomes ill in the 10 days after a visit, he or she will immediately report that to the church office.