

Relaunch of Indoor Worship Sunday, May 9, 2021 @10:30am

This Sunday, we'll be relaunching in-building worship for the first time since March 2020.

In anticipation of this coming Sunday, we wanted to answer some logistical questions that might come up for you before or during our worship gathering. Our new service guidelines are explained below – please read them carefully.

Do I have to wear a mask during worship?

Yes, please wear a mask and practice social distancing. All attendees, including children over two years old, are required to wear a mask over their mouth and nose during service, with the exception of when communion is taken. The church will have KN-95 masks available to all attendees, but any type of mask is acceptable.

But why are worship leaders allowed to take their masks off?

Only persons leading songs, preaching, and speaking from the chancel will unmask for their portions of service. Our worship leaders are a safe distance from the congregation and one another to sing and preach without masks.

Do I have to wear a mask even if I'm fully vaccinated?

Yes, please wear a mask and practice social distancing, even if you're fully vaccinated. Thank you for your help with this!

How will seating work in the sanctuary?

We have gone ahead and marked the pews with green tape to maximize spacing and safety. Seating will be based on a first come, first serve basis. If need assistance finding a seat, our ushers are there to assist you.

Is seating in the Sanctuary limited?

For now, yes. To facilitate this, we are continuing registration for worship. Church seating is limited to 23 family units on the main floor, and 8 in the balcony

Can I sing?

Those who have been fully vaccinated are invited to sing and fully participate in worship. You are also invited to use the hymnals as well!

We have not been standing in worship outside. Can we stand in worship again?

Yes, please rise in body or spirit as you are able during the portions of the service where you are invited to stand.

Are we Passing the Peace?

At this time, we will continue to exchange a sign of Christ's peace with one another instead of hugging and handshaking.

How will we take up the offering?

We will have offering plates in the narthex for you to place your offering in after the service. We have also added a QR code for this purpose in the bulletin

What are these weird squares in the bulletin?

There are two QR codes in the bulletin. By using your phone's camera you will be able to 'scan' the code. The code on the front will direct you to this FAQ page. The code next to the offertory will direct you to our online giving page.

Can I use the Bibles, cards, pew pads, etc. in the pew racks?

Yes, you are invited to use the hymnals and Bibles during the service. If there is a prayer request we invite you to fill out the card and place it in the offering plate when you are leaving. You may use the offering envelopes as you need them. And we invite you to let us know you were with us by signing the pew pad.

Will there still be online services?

Absolutely! We have invested a lot of time, talent, and treasure into providing a quality streaming experience and services will be livestreamed to Facebook and our website going forward.

Will food and drink be allowed in the sanctuary?

For this immediate season, the answer is no. Please keep all food and drink outside of the buildings. The only exception to this will be when we celebrate Communion together.

Will there be nursery, children's, and youth options at all services?

We will not provide a nursery at this time. The playground and other outdoor spaces are available for use during worship. Supervision is required, but will not be provided by the church. As the need arises we will look at other means of providing a nursery.

Will we have Fellowship Hour?

When the service ends, we encourage congregants to fellowship in the courtyard where there will be beverages and you may remove your mask if desired.

How long do we expect these new protocols to remain in effect?

We're not really sure. More than anything else, we just want to worship God together and help people find life in the in-person Christian community once again. If that means a season of masks, spaced out seating, and Communion in tiny little cups, so be it. How and when we gather isn't nearly as important as *why* we gather and as long as our hearts are set on Jesus, we'll do whatever it takes to gather by grace through faith in love for God and our neighbors.

What does this mean for Sunday School, PW and other committee meetings?

For now, weekly worship service is the only approved activity that allows a gathering indoors at the church. We are working on plans to invite groups at Fellowship and the community to use our indoor spaces safely.

Hopefully the above content has answered most of your logistical questions, but if you think of something not addressed here, please don't hesitate to let us know. We can't wait to worship with you. Regathering indoors has been a long time coming, so whether you join us inside the Sanctuary or online from your home, let's do it all for the glory of God and the sake of the world.