

Greetings!

Over the last four months, we have witnessed many changes in our lives: at home, at work, and at church. The models across our community for what gatherings look like in this time vary, and it is sometimes unclear what is best practice. As we begin to gather in-person again after this shift in our lives, we would like to share with you how we have planned to move, as a community, safely back into worshipping together.

We will have 4 worship services:

- Wednesday Evening at 7 pm: for those who would normally attend Wednesday Evening services
- Sunday at 9:00 am: for those who would normally attend the 9:00 am service and sit on the north side (hallway side) of the sanctuary
- Sunday at 10:00 am: for those who would normally attend the 9:00 am service and sit on the south side (windows side) of the sanctuary
- Sunday at 11:00 am: for those who would normally attend the 10:45 service

Here is what to expect as we gather to worship. You may read below, or watch the short video linked here (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-qCuhoT5vzo&t=6s>):

- Please enter through the east doors. These will be the only doors that will be unlocked. Try to spend as much time before the service outdoors, physically distanced from those outside your household.
- We *highly encourage* wearing a mask as soon as you enter the building, and until you exit the building. If you do not have one of your own, we will have masks available at the door.
- The Fellowship Hall, Nursery, Fireside Room, and other gathering spaces will not be opened. You may use the main restrooms and handicapped restroom in the Narthex area, but we will not have time to constantly disinfect between people, so use at your own risk.
- Please enter the sanctuary through the doors in the rear. We will not be using bulletins, go directly to your seat. Pews have been designated with colors for each service: **RED for Wednesday Evening and 9:00 am Sunday**, **YELLOW for 10:00 am Sunday**, and **BLUE for 11:00 am Sunday**. Households of 3 or more should have an entire pew to themselves, 1-2 person households may share with one other 1-2 person household if they sit on opposite ends.
- We will not be singing or speaking collectively, to help with the spread of aerosol droplets that can be transmitted easily in closed, air conditioned spaces. We will have music provided by Judy and special music, thank you to those who are sharing these amazing talents with us! We will also be learning a few ASL signs for use throughout worship, so that we may participate in worship together!
- The services will be very similar to the recorded Sunday worships we have held, plan on around 30-35 minute long services. This allows for less exposure time for all gathered, as well as adequate time for disinfecting between services.
- If we are hosting communion that Sunday, we will invite households up together. Pastor Tim and Lexy will be distributing wearing appropriate protective gear, and will be spread apart so

that there is adequate physical distancing. We ask that households approach together, and that the next household waits to approach until the household before them has cleared the area and is on their way back to their pew.

- As you leave the sanctuary, please exit in the front of the sanctuary. From there, you may exit out the west or north doors to the parking lot. Please leave any reusable masks that you borrowed in the baskets by the door so they can be washed and sanitized to be used again.
- You are welcome to socialize outside after the service. Please be sure to continue physical distancing and wearing a mask if you are able, but enjoy the company of this beloved community! We have lots of green spaces available for small groups.

A couple extra notes to consider:

- Please understand that there is a risk attending in person worship. We will do our best to make it as safe of a gathering as possible, but we ask that you be aware of your own risk level and make choices that are best for you. We look forward to continuing to post worship online and offering mailed materials as well; we are a connected worshipping community no matter if we are in the pew or our couch.
- We are asking you to monitor your own symptoms, and do not attend in person if you are experiencing any symptoms of Covid-19. Checking your temperature prior to coming to worship is a great and simple way to help keep our community healthy.
- If you have tested positive for Covid-19 and have recently been in worship, please contact the church office. We will not share names without permission, but want those who have gathered to know of the possible exposure.
- If you are not comfortable attending in person worship yet, but would like to receive holy communion, please contact our church office. Pastor Tim or Lexy would love to celebrate the sacrament with you in the chapel some time during the week.

Please do not hesitate to call and ask questions as we begin to gather in person again. Pastor Tim and Lexy would love to help you discern what is the best method of worship if you need help, and can clarify as needed.

Thank you for your patience and continued prayers and stewardship as we navigate this time together. We will never be back to normal, but we look forward to the new and amazing ways that God calls us to be the church in this time.

Peace to you!

Pastor Tim Stoa and Lexy Steinle