



Protocol for Return to In-Person Worship

Overview

1. To limit potential exposure to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), attendees are encouraged to self-screen and adhere to CDC recommendations where symptoms of and exposure to COVID-19 are concerned.
2. To help avoid potential spread of COVID-19 to those that do not yet have access to a vaccine, face masks are required to be worn by all attendees.
3. To practice proper physical distancing, seating capacity for in-person worship services will be limited.
4. To promote a safe environment, increased attention to limited physical contact and personal hygiene is required.

Protocol

We suggest people meeting the following criteria consider attending in-person worship:

- You are well (no recent contact with infected persons, not exhibiting flu-like symptoms)
- You will participate as a member of the Clergy, worship team, or ushers/lay leaders
- You have completed a full course of COVID-19 vaccination
- You feel it is the right time for your family to return to in-person worship

We suggest people meeting the following criteria consider not attending in-person worship:

- Out of care for the attendees, please be aware that the CDC, State of Michigan and the Michigan Conference suggest that high risk individuals – over age 60 and/or with underlying conditions – should continue to shelter in place and worship online, unless you've had a full course of vaccination.

(Note that we will continue to offer online worship services and written worship materials for those who are not able to or comfortable attending in-person worship)

Do not attend in-person worship if you have known COVID-19 symptoms or exposure

- You are encouraged to self-monitor for CDC-identified signs and symptoms of COVID-19. If you have any new known symptoms, have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last three weeks, or have had a known exposure to COVID-19 in the last two weeks, please do not attend in-person worship.

Limited seating will be available

- Seating limitations will first and foremost be determined by our understanding of safe physical distance capacity. Safe seating capacities will be determined by the COVID-19 Task Force and communicated to Chapel Hill staff for planning purposes.
- Two services are currently planned on each Sunday in an effort to accommodate as many in-person worshipers as possible.
- We recognize there are people that do not have access to online worship, and strongly desire to worship in-person. Since initial seating capacity in the church will be limited, if you are comfortable worshipping online, you might consider continuing to do so, making more seats available for in-person worship for those that do not have online worship access, until such time as seating capacity can be increased.

Attendance planning

- If you are planning to attend in-person worship, we request that you reserve space for you/your family using a reservation process that will be offered in advance of each worship service. This will help us to assess and manage potential utilization of available seating capacity,

Face covering

- To be faithful to Jesus' command to Love One Another and care for those that have not yet had access to a vaccine, anyone entering the building must wear a mask covering his or her nose and mouth. A mask will be provided to you if you arrive without one.

Personal hygiene

- Please exercise the standard personal hygiene precautions to which we are now all accustomed, including hand washing, use of hand sanitizer, and appropriate covering of coughs and sneezes.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers have been placed at the entry, exit and other locations within the building. You are encouraged to use them, especially when entering and exiting the Worship Center.

Entry and Exit

- To control pathways and assure safe physical distancing during entry and exit, a single entry point will be established, as well as clearly marked exits. Appropriate time will be allowed for safe entry and exit of the building.

Limiting physical contact

- You are encouraged to practice limited physical contact.
- We must practice physical distancing; please keep at least six feet of space between you and others whenever possible.
- We will resume Coffee Bar, greeting line following worship, and social hour between services when it is safe to do so.
- If you desire to meet and greet other congregants, please do so outdoors immediately following the worship service when weather permits. Risk of spread of infection has been proven to be much lower outdoors than in an indoor environment.

Seating

- We will maintain safe physical distancing from family to family by seating in every other pew or otherwise having a 6-foot space between each family unit.
- Those in a household who are living together, or others that have regular safe interactions, may sit in a pew together without distancing from each other.
- Ushers will seat and dismiss attendees, working from front to back (while seating) and back to front (while dismissing).

Singing/Spoken Liturgy

- Worship services will include singing and responsive reading, which can be safely done when all participants are wearing face coverings.

Children

- To limit personal interactions among children, neither Kidz Church nor Nursery Care will be available until further notice.

Notification

- **Please notify a Pastor if you have a confirmed case of COVID-19 within 10 days of attending a worship service.**