

***As we resume our gatherings for worship on Sunday mornings and Monday evening, the pastor and church council request that attendees follow these social distancing and hygienic precautions:***

- 1) No one should feel required to attend public worship services during this trying time and those most at risk with this new virus are encouraged to continue to shelter at home, as are any who just don't want to take the risk. While we will make the circumstances as safe as possible, we of course cannot guarantee anything. If you chose to attend you are saying that you are willing to follow the temporary restrictions that will be necessary to worship together at this time. We will continue to broadcast video of our services on YouTube and live on the radio at 8:00 AM as well as public access TV on Thursday 11:30 AM and Friday at 8:30 PM.
- 2) Mask or face coverings certainly may be worn for your safety and for the safety of others if you so desire. They will not be required and no one should judge anyone either way. We will not be providing masks so please bring your own. Pastor will not be wearing a mask while in the chancel to lead services. Be aware that there may be some who are unable to wear a mask or keep one on, such as small children.
- 3) **If you, or anyone in your household, are not feeling well, even if it is just a cold, we ask that you NOT attend in person services for your safety and for the safety of your fellow members.** Please also make sure you cover your mouth and nose with a handkerchief or with your sleeve if you feel a cough or sneeze coming (especially if you are not wearing a mask).
- 4) We ask that parents remain with their children at all times, for example when using the restroom. Parents, please try and be sure your children, who might not understand "social distancing", respect the personal space of others. The children "busy bags" will not be available. The drinking fountain will not be able to be used either.
- 5) If you want to visit with fellow worshippers, please do this outside in the open air, before you enter the building prior to the beginning of the service, or after you leave the building following the conclusion of the service. It is important that there be no congregating of people in the aisles or in the narthex, before or after the service. Please remember to maintain social distancing.
- 6) We have limited supplies of hand sanitizer so if at all possible please bring your own with you from home.
- 7) At least, for a while, we will NOT be singing the hymns. Since the 8:00 AM service is broadcast we will have a couple singers in the balcony singing. You are asked to read or sing the hymns softly to yourself. During other services the hymn verses will be spoken along with all responses to the liturgy. On your way in, please also pick up a bulletin from the stand in the narthex. The service will be printed. Please take the bulletin home with you after church. Do not return it to

the stand. No offering will be gathered during the service, but an offering plate will be located at the entrance to the nave for you to place your offering.

- 8) Worshipers are asked to space themselves out in the nave, and to sit only in every other pew. Pews that should remain empty are roped off. Members of the same household may, of course, sit in close proximity to each other in the same pew, but if two households share a pew, there should be at least six feet between the two groups.
- 9) When the Lord's Supper is celebrated, the pastor will carefully wash his hands immediately before the service and will also use hand sanitizer before the distribution of Holy Communion begins. You will be ushered up, in a continuous flow, by families/couples and stand at the middle of the bottom step. The pastor will place the body of Christ in your cupped hands, while being careful not to touch your hands as he does so. Each communicant will receive the blood of Christ by taking an individual cup, spaced out in the tray, being careful not to touch other cups or the tray. As you approach and when you return to your seat, be careful to remain at least six feet away from the others who are coming up, or who are returning to their seats.
- 10) It is acceptable if a communicant member decides to refrain from participation in the sacrament for a while, even if he or she is in attendance at the services. Communicants who do not, at present, wish to commune in the public service may also make an appointment with the pastor for private communion.
- 11) We encourage you to use the restroom before you come to church to limit the number of people using the facility at church.
- 12) After each service we will be wiping down all pews, door handles, railings, elevator buttons and bathrooms. Doors and windows will remain open if possible for better ventilation. If you would be willing to help wipe down after church please speak to Pastor.
- 13) Please be advised that all of these guidelines come to us from the CDC and the Minnesota Department of Health and are subject to change especially if there would be a break out in our local community.