

Attending church in person: a guide

We look forward to seeing many friends reunited at the church on **Sunday 27th September** for our first morning service in over six months. We recognise that some of our congregation are unable to attend and we urge anyone concerned that their attendance would put themselves or others close to them at risk to stay at home. If in doubt please consult with your friends and family. We place no obligation on church attendance (and we never have

done). Nevertheless, we do hope to see those that wish to come, trusting that there is a blessing in being physically together. Below are our guidelines for attending worship. Please read these carefully.



Arrival

Please Note: No one should enter the building if they have any symptoms of Covid, or are self-isolating, or quarantining

We invite people to arrive between 10:25 and 10:40, to minimise queuing. We will not be using a one-way system for the Sanctuary, but will manage the flow of people into and out of the building by having stewards at all entry and exit points. Please wait until directed to enter by a steward.

You MUST:

- Queue at a distance of 2m before entering church
- Sanitise hands on entry and exit
- Leave a contact number for the group of people you arrive with
- Wear a face mask – this is mandatory. (If you are medically exempt please inform a pastor or deacon so that stewards can be informed)
Please bring your own. Bins will be available at exits for disposable masks.

During the service

Services will be shorter than usual. Sit where directed, and remain at least 1m (preferably 2) from anyone not in your household. Bring your own Bible (or request one to take and keep as your own) and bring your own activities for children to do. Remain in your 'spot' until directed to leave.

You MUST NOT

- Sing (but joining in with actions, tapping your foot, and smiling are actively encouraged!)
- Move furniture, toys, books or any other items in the building
- Enter parts of the building other than the worship space and for access to toilets



Children and Young People

We regret that we cannot offer age appropriate groups at present. Both children and young people are welcome to attend all of our services.

Toilets

We need to discourage use of toilets – please make use of private facilities before you come. Should access to the toilet be required:

- Sanitise hands on entry
- One person (or household if necessary) at a time in the room (regardless of number of cubicles)
- Maintain 2m distancing whilst queuing
- Wash hands for at least 20 secs with soap and water
- Wipes will be provided for cleaning toilet seat – please wipe down after use and place in bins

We will ensure that the toilets are thoroughly cleaned before and after each session.

Departure

At the close of the service, stewards will manage people out of the building. We will not be serving refreshments. Please wait until you are directed before leaving your seat. Conversations may be held outside the building, but social distancing must be maintained and groups larger than 6 are prohibited.

Offering

There will be an offering plate by each exit. There are no restrictions on what means you choose to give.

Strict adherence to the above is required if we are to maintain services on site. We will insist that everyone attending behaves responsibly.

Please get in touch if there are any questions.

We will have opportunity for reflection and feedback at church meeting on 29th September. The next step will be a further trial of a family friendly service on 11th October after which we will review what we can offer from the building in the remainder of the Autumn.

Roland and Vicki

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