

In-person worship FAQ

When does in-person worship begin?

If the local Covid numbers do not rise, we will begin having congregants in worship beginning Sunday, April 18th at 11:00 am.

Are reservations to attend required?

Yes! We will limit the number of attendees to 85 as we begin to open. A Sign-Up Genius link will be emailed from the church office on Tuesday mornings.

How does the online sign-up work?

It's quite simple – click on the link and follow the directions. Some important tips: you need to sign up each member of your household that is attending. We also ask folks to sign up to arrive in shifts at 10:30, 10:40, or 10:50. This will help ushers as they seat congregants and allow everyone to arrive on time.

What if I don't have computer or online access?

No problem! Call Paula at the church office (314) 965-0326 and she will happily sign you up.

What if all the seats are taken?

We are not sure how many people to anticipate as we begin, so we kindly ask that if you sign up for one Sunday to wait before signing up the next week. Please give others the opportunity to attend in-person.

What should I expect when I arrive at church?

We ask everyone to use two entrances to the church: the glass doors off the church parking lot and the large red doors that face Adams Avenue. No other entrances will be available.

We ask you to be masked upon arrival, and that your mask covers both your nose and mouth. Please maintain social distancing. This can be difficult! We know how much you want to visit and greet fellow members, but please wait until after the service when you are outdoors.

Ushers will greet you in the narthex and will seat you. It's important to note that we are using designated pews to keep everyone distanced. You will not be able to choose your seat. (Thank you for your understanding on this!) The ushers have a seating plan ready that seats everyone safely and quickly.

As you enter the sanctuary, you will be invited to pick up a worship bulletin. Offering plates will be at the door before and after the service if you choose to bring your offering.

What should I expect during worship?

Just before 11:00 the clergy and musicians will enter the sanctuary. The service begins with announcements followed by the Prelude.

Once the service begins it will be as we have been worshipping the past year. You will be allowed to sing along on the hymns as you are masked and distanced. You will also be allowed to join in the spoken congregational responses and Lord's Prayer.

At the Sign of Peace, we ask that you simply wave or nod to your fellow worshippers. Please don't leave your seat at this point.

Following the Postlude, the clergy and musicians will depart through a side door. We ask you to remain in your pew – ushers will come forward to guide you out.

Are the restrooms available?

The restrooms off the front right door of the sanctuary will be available if necessary. Kindly note that only 2 people are allowed in the restroom at a time.

Are other parts of the building open?

At this time only the Sanctuary and adjoining restrooms are available to congregants on Sunday mornings.

What if I feel ill or have been exposed to Covid?

We ask you to please not attend worship if you are sick or have been exposed to Covid-19. If possible, please call the church office to let us know you will not be in attendance.

I have questions or concerns. Who should I contact?

Please call Paula in the church office (314) 965-0326. If she cannot answer your question you will be directed to a staff member that can assist you.

This sounds like a lot of effort to attend church!

It is a lot of effort, and every decision and protocol is designed to keep

our worshipping community safe while providing a meaningful experience during worship. We are grateful to the Reopen Task Force, our staff and ushers who have worked diligently to provide these guidelines and assistance.

Will the service still be live-streamed?

Absolutely! Many people don't know this but we were live-streaming the 11:00 service well before the pandemic shut us down. We will continue to live-stream even after we are fully open.