

Devotion

“I was glad when they said to me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.” Psalm 122:1

I hear these words roll down through the centuries and I feel the same joy deep in my soul expressed by the Psalmist; the same longing to be worshipping together in the Lord's house. As you know, our plan is to return to in-person worship at 10am on Sunday, August 16th and 7pm, Wednesday, August 19th. (These are our new worship hours.)

I'm both excited and nervous and maybe you feel the same way. Worship will be different but it will be worship and worshipful. The Re-Turn Leadership Team and your pastor have worked diligently to provide new protocols following CDC guidelines in order to keep one another as safe and healthy as possible. I dearly want you to feel prepared, confident and safe when you come to worship. I imagine you have questions. So, below is my attempt at providing some answers:

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW BEFORE COMING TO CHURCH?

To protect yourself and others, please do not attend church services if you have a fever or other symptoms.

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW WHEN I GET THERE?

You will park in the Exchange Street parking lot and enter those doors. No other doors will be accessible. All other areas of the church will be closed.

Please arrive no earlier than 15 minutes prior to service. The new service format will be approximately 30 minutes in length.

Greeters will meet you prior to entering the doors to greet you warmly.

- A Greeter will record your attendance prior to entering the church. This will also serve for contact tracing, if necessary.
- Wearing a mask is required. Greeters will provide a mask for you if you do not have one. Please make sure your mouth and nose stay covered. (A huge word of thanks to Kathleen Pidrak for providing handmade, washable and reusable masks for your convenience.)

6 Foot social distancing is required. The narthex floor will be marked in order for you (and your party) to maintain the appropriate distance while waiting to be seated by an usher. Please stand on the mark.

Please use the hand sanitizer provided, prior to entering the sanctuary.

A person will be available to take your joys or concerns in the narthex PRIOR to service. You may also email or call Pastor Kristen before the service to have your joys/concerns shared and offered in prayer during worship.

If you wish, bring your own Bible. The pews will not have hymnals, Bibles, pencils, or paper available. The worship service is paperless (bring your own paper and pencil if desired).

Screens are located at the front of the sanctuary with words for the service.

The ushers will seat you to ensure social distancing requirements. To maintain appropriate distancing, you will not be able to sit in your normal spot (I'm sorry!) Families will sit together. Please comply with the ushers' direction.

Restrooms will be single occupancy only (except for parents with small children).

No church school or nursery care will be provided.

HOW WILL WE EXIT THE SANCTUARY?

Please wait to leave your pew until you are directed to do so. Social Distancing must continue to be observed.

There will be a designated basket/plate to receive an offering on your exit from sanctuary.

There will be no Coffee Fellowship after services.

LAST BITS

The church will be cleaned and sanitized after each service.

If you are diagnosed as positive for Covid-19, please notify the church ASAP.

Our worship services will be videotaped and available on our church website and Facebook page for those who will not be attending.

Our first priority remains keeping one another safe. We care deeply for you, and remain committed to doing all we can for each other's safety and health. To that end, I'm offering a word of caution, that the August 16th date should be treated as preliminary. We continue to assess the situation as the time approaches and will inform you immediately should any changes be made to this schedule.

Yours in the journey,

Pastor Kristen

Announcements

Church Office: Currently and until further notice, the church office is closed. If you need building access, please call the church office @ (708) 672-8353.

Want to meet with Pastor Kristen? Please give her a call @ (224) 628-9128 to set up an appointment. She would be happy to meet with you.