



PROCEDURES FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP WHEN CHURCH RE-OPENS (as at 28th September 2020)

'Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another' Hebrews 10v 25

Sunday worship at Church is currently going to be restarting on **Sunday 4th October at 10:45 (Prompt)**. This may have to be altered at short notice due to the changing situation with regard local & national lockdown measures. The timing of services we go on into the Autumn may have to be altered depending on the availability of preachers. We'll let you know in good time if they are.

We understand that some people may not feel comfortable coming back at this time and we will continue to provide worship via Facebook/You Tube or through the printed worship resources so that you can continue to join in worship from your homes.

For those who are wanting to return - welcome back! But please remember we are **ALL** responsible for keeping each other safe. The good news is that we should all be able to provide for up to 50 adults plus children & young people to meet safely in Church. **However to achieve this it is essential that we are ALL strictly disciplined about our behaviour.** 2 metre distancing is not possible during large group activities but 1 metre distancing should be maintained as a minimum.

As required by law a risk assessment has been carried out & approved by Church Council and the following measures are needed to manage the identified risks. We are to assume that at least one person present may unknowingly have the virus. In the next few weeks we'll be appointing "Responsible Officers" to manage the risks and to be the people to lead on our work to ensure everyone entering the building is kept as safe a possible. When they are in post, it may be necessary for you to notify them in advance, on a week by week basis, if you plan to attend for worship so that we can manage the numbers, but again we'll confirm that if we do implement this system.

Key requirements

1. If you have any of the following symptoms or feel otherwise unwell

- a continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or a change in, your normal sense of taste or smell

or if anyone in your house is self-isolating please do not enter the building but return home

2. Current advice is that you should not travel to Church in a car with anyone outside your 'household bubble'.
3. **Please register with your activity leader or Worship Steward on arrival for 'test & trace' purposes. This is a legal requirement**
4. Please sanitise your hands on entry and on leaving the building
5. Please help to keep each other stay safe by staying at least 1 metre apart and 2 metres apart where possible
6. Sadly no handshakes and hugging and kissing should take place.
7. Face masks are to be worn by adults and are available on request
8. Only one person at a time in the toilets please and sanitise or wash your hands before and after use

Practicalities of Sunday worship

9. **On arrival please observe the key requirements listed above**
10. Please follow the instructions of stewards at all times.
11. The service will initially be restricted to 30-45 minutes and will start & finish promptly.
12. Please try and arrive early to avoid last minute bunching in the entrance and other areas.
13. If Children's activity is being led they are to go straight into the Church extension where they will be met by a volunteer and remain with the activity leaders for the duration of the service.
14. Seats in the Worship Area will be set out to achieve a minimum of 1 metre distancing.
15. People from one household bubble should sit together but others must sit at least 1 metre apart. The position of chairs will need to be adjusted as people arrive. So that this can be done in an orderly way people need to wait at the door to the worship area until they are escorted to appropriate seats by the door steward. Hopefully as things settle down we can then keep the same seats and seat pattern each week.
16. Once seated people are asked to remain in their seats and wear face masks throughout the service. Please avoid the temptation to move your seats or get up and chat
17. No normal congregational singing is permitted although one worship leader is permitted to sing at the front. However very quiet singing or humming behind face masks should be possible.

18. No refreshments will be served before or after the service and the kitchen is only to be used by authorised personnel to distribute take-way food to needy folk in the community. Please bring your own drink if you need a drink during the service.
19. Church bibles, song books, etc cannot be used. Please bring your own bible or follow the words on the screen.
20. Please bring your weekly offering in an envelope & place in the plate by the doors to the Worship Area to avoid the need to handle loose cash.
21. Arrangements for communion will be explained when communion takes place.
22. At the end of the service please leave the building as quickly as possible whilst maintaining orderly social distancing. **When called** parents with children and/or young people should collect them from the hall, maintaining orderly distancing, and quickly leave the building
23. Please do not congregate in the foyer, outside the church entrances so that others can leave safely

Thank you for your understanding and kind co-operation.

Church Council - 21st September 2020