



Redeemer

LUTHERAN CHURCH
1701 Hwy 72 E, Rolla, MO | 573-364-7071

Come-back Plan for In-Person Worship

May 12, 2020

Welcome Back!

In accordance with Missouri District, DHHS, CDC, and the Governor's *Show-Me Strong Recovery Plan*, the Board of elders and pastor have established the following guidelines as we resume in-person worship. We look at this process not as the flicking of a switch, but more like a slow turn of the dial on a thermostat as we gradually return to life together as the Body of Christ. As we begin to turn the dial, our first goal is regular, safe, and faithful Sunday worship.

To be honest, the following can feel a bit daunting. Try not to view this as a bunch of rules, but as temporary steps toward regular life together. A train without railroad tracks will crash and burn, these are our railroad tracks during this momentary season. Things will likely not go back to "normal" for some time. Prepare yourself for that. This is a first step. Thus, we ask that you share grace and be grace toward others as we walk through this uncertain time.

At this point, in-person gatherings beyond worship are discouraged. Elders and pastor are closely monitoring the situation on a regular basis, seeking to honor the third, fourth, and fifth Commandment as we honor God, respect government authority, and serve our neighbor in love. Plans could change at any time in our community and thus, we need to be patient and flexible.

General Guidelines

- The same blended service will be offered at both 8:30am and 11am. This is a temporary move to simplify things; once life begins to stabilize, plan to resume our regular traditional-modern style.
- Anyone planning to attend should be symptom free and not considered "at-risk." We also ask that if you have any common cold or flu-like symptoms, even if you think it is just allergies, to not attend in-person worship that day.
- A video recording will be made of the live service and later placed online.
- Between and after each service, bathrooms, common meeting areas, and chairs will be sanitized.
- There will be no in-person Growth Hour options between services.

Entering the Parking Lot & Church

- You are encouraged to park every other space, allowing an empty slot between vehicles.
- As you approach the church, maintain a six-foot distance between family groups.
- Please use only the main double-doors to the church building for entrance and exit. The Family Life Center will be locked and not used on Sundays at this time.
- Please refrain from shaking hands or other bodily contact with people other than family.
- Elders and elder assistants will seat people as they enter the Sanctuary. You may likely not be seated in "your" regular seat, but will be seated based on your entrance to the Sanctuary and the next available seat from front to back. This may be an opportunity to get to know someone new! You may find a new favorite seat!

- To allow for social distancing, rows will be marked off.

Facemasks

- While not required, you are welcome to provide your own facemask.

During the Service

- The entire service will be projected.
- Paper bulletins and Weekly Newsletters will NOT be available at church. A draft will be emailed and placed on our church website if you prefer a hardcopy version to print and bring with you for worship. Any paper items you bring, please take home with you (we kindly ask you not to discard any items at church).
- Hymnals, pens, and offering envelopes have been temporarily removed from the chairbacks.
- Children present at services should remain with their parents/guardians and refrain from interacting with children of other parties on the premises.
- We will not pass the plate for offering. Offerings can be placed in either Offering Vessel located in the Narthex and entrance door. If preferred, continue to mail or give online.
- Connect Cards will not be collected. The assigned elder will personally collect names for attendance and guest follow-up during the service.
- The greetings extended to fellow worshippers will be temporarily suspended, as will fellowship time in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall prior to and following worship.
- The Fellowship Hall will be used for worship overflow. No coffee or baked goods will be available.

Exiting the Church

- Please remain in your seat until you are ushered out to maintain safe distancing. Exit immediately out the doors.

Communion & Growth Hour

We will not partake in Communion during this first step back. Being that Communion is a multi-faceted, complex issue, highly relational and personal in nature, the decision to add it back into the service, along with Growth Hour and other large group gatherings, will be determined at a later date as we see how things progress. Our initial goal is to start meeting regularly for worship. We eagerly look forward to the time we can break Bread together once again!

Have a question, comment, or concern? Feel free contacting an elder or pastor, we would love to have a conversation!

Be safe. Be grace. Be in Jesus. God be with you, just as He promised to be!

In Christ Jesus,

Bob Tappe (636-744-5395)

Scott Kaden (573-578-9801)

Alan Wuest (573-578-9534)

Pastor Nathan Kuhlman (573-612-9090)