

What Can I Expect When I Return to Worship at St. Andrew's? Worship During the COVID-19 Pandemic

People should only attend worship services if they are healthy and feel comfortable.

- We will continue on-line and TV worship services, and Rev. Emily and the Elders will devote extra efforts to connect with those who cannot and should not come to public worship.
- If you have been out of country, in order to protect others, we ask that you self-quarantine for 14 days before attending worship.
- The City of Sarnia has a mandatory mask bylaw. This bylaw means we all need to wear a mask when gathering. **Please bring your own mask and wear it outdoors and indoors on Church property.**

Starting from when you arrive, we will try to answer any questions you may have.

Where do I park?

- Parking will remain the same. Persons with permitted accessible parking may park in the Church laneway.

Where do I enter the building and will there be a line-up?

- The entrance to the Church will be from the driveway where there is a ramp for accessibility.
- The front doors of the Church will not be used.
- There will be lines marked on the driveway so that you will be physical distancing. Please be mindful that there will be vehicles in the laneway.
- Everyone will enter through the side door. The door will be open for you and you will be greeted at the door. **Doors will be open at 9:45 a.m.**
- As we adhere to physical distancing requirements, there may be a line-up depending on the timing of your arrival. Please respect the 6 feet distancing rule when waiting to enter the church.

Will I be greeted?

- Yes! You will be met and greeted with a warm hello and a squirt of hand sanitizer (required). Sadly, no hand-shakes or hugs.
- For contact tracing, in the event that we are notified of someone contracting the virus, your name, address and phone number will be required by the Health Unit along with the date you attended church. This information will be collected each Sunday that you attend. These records will be kept securely at the church and will be disposed of when allowed for confidentiality.
- Greeters will wear a face mask.
- Hangers will not be accessible and you must keep your belongings with you.

- Once you have registered, an usher will take you into the sanctuary and will guide you to specifically-marked seats. Seating is marked to ensure physical distancing.
- The balcony will not be accessible.

Will I be able to sit in my usual seat or wherever I choose?

- Maybe, but not likely. You will be seated from the back of the sanctuary to the front. This seating plan minimizes movement against the flow of people in the same space.
- Seating will be marked to ensure a two metre/six-foot distance between individuals or households
- Pew cushions will remain in place for your comfort. The virus will die on fabric between weekly worship services.

Other than seating, will anything else be different?

- All Bibles, hymn books, and bulletins (all paper) will be removed from the sanctuary. These items are not easily cleaned and are often shared. You are encouraged to bring your own personal bible and remember to take it with you when you leave the sanctuary.
- No large print bulletins will be available.
- The order of service, Scripture readings and other parts of the service will be projected onto a screen at the front of the sanctuary, if the technology cooperates!

Will there be singing?

- We appreciate that this is a very important part of worship for many, but the act of singing requires removing masks and physical distancing of 25 feet to keep people safe. At this time, we will not be singing.
- The organ will not be used for now due to physical distancing requirements. Foster will play the piano for us instead.
- There will be instrumental music throughout the service and soloists from time to time, and you are invited to participate by listening, clapping, reading the words on the screen, or humming along.

Will the offering still be part of worship?

- Yes. An offering plate will be located at the front of the sanctuary for giving as you enter or exit.
- If you prefer, you can contact the office to set up electronic giving or mail your offering to us.

Will there be childcare?

- Not at this time. We need to ensure the health of both children and caregivers. The nursery will be available for urgent needs.
- Children are welcome to come to Church and sit with their families.
- Please feel free to bring a quiet activity with you for your children.
- There will still be children's time during the service, but we ask children to remain seated with their family where they will be safe.

How will we be exiting the service after worship?

- You will be escorted by an usher from the sanctuary. It will be the reverse of how you entered the sanctuary.
- We will be exiting from the door that is accessible, which is the same door that you entered the Church.
- Physical distancing will be required.
- Please remember to take all your belongings with you as you leave.

Will the washrooms be open?

- Yes. There will be one washroom available. This washroom is located by the side entrance where you entered the Church. This washroom is accessible.
- The other washrooms will not be available except for urgent need.
- The washrooms will be cleaned before and after the worship service.
- Please wash your hands using good hygiene practices.
- Only one person at a time in the washroom, unless accompanying a child.
- Please use the hand sanitizer prior to entering the washroom, and use the disinfecting wipes on the sink to wipe down the taps and paper towel dispenser once you have used the washroom. Please sanitize your hands again upon leaving.

Will there be fellowship time after the service?

- At this time, there will not be fellowship in the hall after the service.

Please remember:

- If you are feeling unwell, please stay home and enjoy the service on television or online.
- Remember to bring your mask, hand-fan, and Bible. You may also bring a bottle of water. Please remember to take these items with you when you go.
- Use hand sanitizer and wear your mask.
- Observe physical distancing and stay in your pew.
- Follow the ushers' directions.
- Remember, we are all in this together!

If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to your Elder or Rev. Emily.