

Worship Protocols



Worship Protocols: Spring 2021

Regular in-person worship resumes May 2, 2021

- In-person worship will be at 9:30am
- Online worship will continue at 10:30am
- Our ultimate goal is to move back to one service at 10:30am that is both in-person and live streamed online.
 - At this time, additional online digital greeters are needed in order to move the in-person service to 10:30am. If interested in serving in this way, please contact Pastor Christina.

In-Person worship will be primarily outdoors, and will be moved inside the Sanctuary in the case of inclement weather

- Ad Council will re-evaluate the primary location of in-person worship at their June 14, 2021 meeting
- Worshipping outdoors provides lower risk and more flexibility with the types of music we can offer. As of April 29, 2021, it is still not advisable or safe to have congregational singing or wind instruments during indoor worship.

The online worship service will continue to be offered via Facebook, our website, or calling in at 1-908-206-7598.



Protocols for Recording On-Site

When recording elements for the online service on site, the following protocols apply:

| | Protocols |
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| A/V Equipment | Goal: Minimize germ sharing & germs that stay on surfaces for longer <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sanitize after use. Wipes will be provided.• No shared microphones, music stands, etc. |
| Social Distancing | Goal: Minimize passing of germs and observe social distancing rules <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 feet or more distance between each person who does not live in the same household• Capacity will adhere to current state guidelines, along with social distancing practices. (numbers may be smaller than state guidelines based on room size) |
| Music | Goal: Minimize airborne droplets of potential germs that linger in the air <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No ensemble/group recordings at this time.• The music director may record with one additional person (instrumental or vocal) following social distancing guidelines. |
| Liturgy | Goal: Minimize airborne droplets of potential germs that linger in the air <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Readings and prayers can be recorded on site in consultation with the pastor. |
| Surfaces & Cleaning | Goal: Minimize germ sharing and germs that stay on surfaces for longer <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All high-touch surfaces that people come into contact with — instruments, a/v equipment, door handles, etc. — sanitized and wiped down after use• Weekly cleaning of sanctuary and chapel |



Protocols for In-Person Worship

Ad Council approved the following health and safety protocols to be observed during in-person worship:

Masks and maintaining at least 6 feet of social distancing between households will be required at all times, both indoors and outdoors. Remember, these practices are how we take care of one another. Please avoid direct contact with those outside your household, including hugs and handshakes. You are more than welcome to greet one another while maintaining a 6' distance!

Chairs will be provided at the outdoor service, but you are more than welcome to bring your own.

Bulletins will be distributed via email at the end of the week. You are more than welcome to have this bulletin open on your phone during worship, or you can print out a hard copy to bring with you.

Congregational singing will not take place at this time as a precaution. You are welcome to hum along and clap your hands!

An offering plate will be available in which to place your offering. We will not be passing the offering plate during the worship service. Online giving is also available.

Hand sanitizer will be available for your use. All worship equipment will be sanitized and cleaned after use.

Communion will be served on the first Sunday of the month in pre-packaged containers. You are also welcome to bring your own bread and grape juice.

Ushers will monitor adherence to safety protocols and distancing between individuals who aren't family. Please follow all protocols to help take care of one another.



Protocols for In-Person Worship

Ad Council approved the following health and safety protocols to be observed during in-person worship:

If you are not feeling well, please stay home! Online services will continue to be available even as we resume in-person gatherings.

If it is raining or there is other bad weather on Sunday morning, the service will be moved inside the Sanctuary. Please check our website on Sunday mornings for the latest update if you are unsure.

Parking or driving in the church driveway will not be allowed. Please make use of parking spots around the church. Drop offs may be done on Deforest Ave.

The pastor will take off her mask when in speaking front of the congregation. Soloists and other speakers will leave their masks on. We are increasing the distance between our worship leaders and the congregation accordingly.

Pre-registration for in-person services is requested to help with planning and tracking attendance. Ushers will also take attendance during worship.

Vocalists and instrumentalists will not share a microphone.

Childcare will not be provided at this time. Children will sit with their families during the service.

Bathrooms will be available for use, but will not be cleaned after each individual use. Cleaning supplies will be provided in bathrooms for your own use.



Protocols for In-Person Worship

Ad Council approved the additional health and safety protocols to be observed during indoor worship:

Indoor worship attendance is limited to 22 households due to available seating that maintains social distancing.

Entrance for the Sanctuary will be through the Breezeway door. Worshippers will exit through the doors at the front of the Sanctuary (to either side of the chancel area).

When worship is in the Sanctuary, the office building will be locked to minimize cleaning of high-touch surfaces. Please come directly to the Sanctuary.

All households will need to line up with 6' distancing in the breezeway. Ushers will direct households to available seating units and will dismiss by pews at the end of the service.

Fellowship after worship is encouraged outside. Please do not linger inside the Sanctuary or other indoor spaces. No food or drink will be served at this time.



Music at In-Person Worship

Music at in-person worship will vary based on location. Ad Council will review music in worship at their next meeting (June 14).

Outdoor worship will include wind instruments and vocal soloists.

Indoor worship will follow the following benchmarks, utilizing metrics by the **NJ Department of Health COVID-19 Activity Level Index**. The guidance around what's considered safe for music in indoor worship is drawn from the Ecumenical Protocols for Worship, Fellowship, and Sacramental Practices.

Orange CALI Score

- No wind instruments and soloists at this time.
- No congregational singing at this time.
- Instrumental hymns and other pieces will be offered.

Yellow CALI Score

- No wind instruments at this time.
- No congregational singing at this time.
- One vocal soloist permitted, who will be masked and 16 feet away from the congregation.

Congregational and group singing is still not recommended inside at this time until at least 70—85% of the population is vaccinated.