

June 3, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we meet again in person at Mount Olive for worship, I would like to review some precautions to take that are safety steps to reduce the risk of the spread of the COVID-19 virus.



These precautions are a change for us. We are following these guidelines to show love and respect for each other in preventing the spread of the COVID-19 virus. We know the virus spreads in droplets from the respiratory tract during breathing, talking, coughing, sneezing and singing. Everything we are putting in place is done to minimize the spread of the virus. The church is clean, safe and prepared for service mindful of the health needs of everyone. The church will be sanitized between services, and there will be increased ventilation to keep the air moving.

Here are the guidelines for us to follow:

- If you are sick or in the high-risk group, please stay home and participate in the live online broadcasts of the service.
- High risk group individuals include the elderly, people with underlying medical conditions, family members who live with elderly people or those who are high risk, people who have access to those at risk in nursing institutions, people who have upper respiratory or flulike symptoms, people with COVID-19 or live with someone with COVID-19, people who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19. If you have small children, consider staying home and watching online.
- Signs of illness include cough, fever, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell. If someone has any of the following emergency signs, seek emergency medical care immediately: trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion, inability to wake or stay awake, bluish lips or face.
- Please wear a face mask or bandana over nose and mouth at all times during your time at church. ***Remember you are wearing a face mask to protect your fellow worshippers, not just yourself.***
- Use hand gel provided in the pews and the touchless dispensers located in the narthex.
- Do not stand during service, do not hug, shake hands, elbow or fist bump. Keep a minimum 6 feet from others. Still smile and wave to one another as we greet each other.
- Seating will be with 6 feet of separation; family groups may sit together. Every other pew is roped off. Please do not mingle indoors, please visit when outside of the church building, still maintaining the six-foot distances and wearing a mask.
- The Sunday bulletin will be on a table in the narthex. Take the bulletin home with you as you leave. Also, do not be alarmed to see all hymnals, sign-in books, pencils, envelopes and papers are temporarily removed from the pews. They will return when it is safe to do so. The small hand gel bottles will remain in the pews and disinfected between services along with the pews themselves.

- The offering plate will not be passed in the pews, there will be a plate in the narthex at the back of the church for you to drop your offering into.
- During communion, follow the pastor's directions and maintain the six-foot distance guidance. We will be using disposable cups, do not leave your cup on communion railing, take with you and dispose in bin that will be provided at front of church.

Let us come together with thanksgiving to our Lord who is sustaining our faith through this unsettling time we have found ourselves in. Hopefully, this time of precautions will pass soon. If you are interested in helping to sanitize between services, please contact me. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

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