

In Person Worship FAQ's

When Will We Begin In Person Services?

We will have one in person, modified Sunday service at 9:30 am starting on July 26th. Preregistration will be required for all attendees. This service is open to those 8 years of age and older who are able to wear a face covering. Grace Place will continue to meet via Zoom at 10:30 on Sundays.

Will The Service Be Different In Any Way?

Yes, this is a modified service to allow us to gather and offer Holy Communion. The service is shortened to decrease the amount of time that attendees are inside the building. There will be no congregational singing, as singing also increases the risk. There will be no passing of the plates, but offering plates will be available at the rear of the church for those who want to drop in their offering envelope. Hymnals, Bibles, and the pew pads have all been removed.

How Many Will Be Able To Attend And How Will We Control The Number Of People?

With the current social distancing guidelines, we are planning to seat 150 people in the sanctuary. We will be alternating rows and maintaining adequate spacing between family groups.

How Do I Make A Reservation?

We will be using an online registration system. A link to the ticketing site for the weekly service will be posted on our website (oswlc.org), be sent out to subscribers in the Mid-Week Connect, and will be posted on our Facebook page. Reservations will close at 10:00 am on Friday or when we reach full capacity.

What Entrances And Exits Should I Use When I Arrive?

The right set of front doors will be our entrance point for in person services. The doors will be propped open and staffed with an usher for directing traffic and ensuring physical distancing. The left set of front doors will be our exit point.

Will Restrooms Be Available?

Yes, restrooms will be available and restroom occupancy will be limited to a single family at a time. Signs will be posted as a reminder.

What Safety Measures Can I Expect to See When I Arrive?

Our reopening plan includes the following: having all main doors propped open to enter and exit, hand sanitizing stations at the entrances and exits, cleaning and sanitizing of the sanctuary, narthex, and restrooms, organized seating and dismissal procedures, individual communion set up for each communicant, and staff and volunteers in place to ensure a safe worship experience.

What Cleaning and Precautionary Measures Are Being Taken To Ensure The Safety Of Everyone?

All items in the seatbacks have been removed. All areas will be sanitized before and after use, including restrooms, door handles, and frequent contact surfaces. Hand sanitizing stations will also be placed at the entrances and exits. In order to ensure best practices for safety, we have also revised our protocols for receiving offerings and for taking communion.

How Will We Maintain Social Distancing During Services?

Seating in the sanctuary will be alternating rows. We will prioritize pew seating for families to maximize our seating capacity while maintaining proper distancing. Ushers will assist in the seating and dismissing of rows to manage foot traffic in a manner that promotes physical distancing.

Are Facemasks Required to Be Worn When In The Church Building?

In accordance with a state executive order issued by the governor, face coverings should be worn by anyone older than 9 years old in all public spaces. We are opening up services to those 8 and older but ask that all in the building comply with the face covering mandate. We ask that you bring your own face covering and wear it at all times when inside the building. We will have disposable face masks available for any attendees who request one.

How Should We Greet One Another?

While in the past a hug or a handshake would have been a social norm for greeting one another, a wave and a smile will be the recommended approach at this time.

How Do I Know If I Should Worship from Home?

We want you to feel the freedom to worship with us according to your personal circumstances, whether in-person or online. However, we realize that the current protocols for meeting in-person reduces the number of people who can worship with us at any given time. We encourage worshipping from home, and we will continue to offer a full online worship service.

What Are the Service Times?

For now, our in person service will be offered at 9:30 am. We will re-evaluate our service protocols, service content, and monitor interest for in person worship to determine if changes are needed. We will also continue to monitor information for the CDC and VDOH to ensure that we are taking appropriate steps to keep our staff, our members, and our volunteers safe. We encourage you to continue to join us for worship videos online on our website, Facebook, and OSWLC app beginning at 8:00 am on Sunday morning.

How Can I Support Our Savior's Way?

Your support allows the important work of the church to continue throughout this pandemic. You can contribute your tithes and offerings via our online giving options, by texting 77977 to OSWLC Give, or mailing your check to the church address. This will allow your worshipful giving and our care for our community to continue uninterrupted.