

First Presbyterian Church of Strasburg

Worship in the Pandemic Green Phase

Proposed by COVID-19 Task Force June 16, 2020

Accepted by Session June 17, 2020

When: Some period of time *after* the state moves Lancaster County to the Pandemic Green Phase.

Times: Sunday Morning Services - 8:30 a.m. Traditional
11:00 a.m. Contemporary
Sunday School - 9:45-10:45 a.m.
One combined Adult Class - Fellowship Hall
Children's classes as required for age

Worship:

1. The maximum number the sanctuary holds while still maintaining social distancing using the designated seating locations is 75 congregants. Overflow will be in rooms 3/4 for a maximum of 15 people. The total number of people in the building should not exceed 250 people.
2. Maintain current streaming platforms for all who may want to Worship at home.
3. Musicians will practice social distancing.
4. Designated seating locations will be identified.
5. Offering will be collected in stationary baskets at the entrance and exit of sanctuary.
6. Communion will be prepared and placed in each individual pew ahead of time.
7. The liturgy and announcements will be displayed on the screen. All other items will be removed from the pews.
8. Masks will be required (6th grade and above or unless there is a medical contraindication) until a vaccine is available.
9. Congregants will be asked to consider the following questions before they come to church, and if they answer in the affirmative, they should remain at home:
 1. Are you currently experiencing any of the following symptoms? Fever, cough, shortness of breath?
 2. In the last 14 days have you tested positive for Covid 19 or have you been tested and are awaiting results?
 3. Have you been in contact with anyone who tested positive for Covid 19 or is awaiting results?
10. Windows and doors should be left open to facilitate ambient air and cross winds, even during times of air conditioning.
11. Pastor Bob and the musicians will be a minimum of 20 feet distance from the first row of worshippers.
12. The cleaning service will continue routine cleaning of the building.
13. Sunday school will be offered to small groups of children in adequately sized rooms so that social distancing can be encouraged. Children, 5th grade or younger, will not be required to wear a mask. If deemed safe, windows should be opened for cross ventilation. Children will be encouraged to clean hands often, with hand sanitizer or soap and water before, during and after Sunday School. No snack will be served in Children's classes.

14. Nursery will be offered.
15. Children's church will be offered.
16. One combined Adult Sunday School class will be offered in Fellowship Hall.
17. Signs will be posted throughout the building: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/stop-the-spread-of-germs-11x17-en.pdf>
18. Attendance will be taken in the event there is need for contact tracing.

Logistics:

1. After each service frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected to prepare for the next service.
2. Contact tracing will take place: If a person is known to have been in church and then subsequently is diagnosed with Covid 19 each person who came in to contact with that person will be notified. The infected persons will remain anonymous.
3. Standing non touch sanitation stations will be set up throughout the church in places of high traffic.

Retrieved 6/17/20:

<https://www.cdc.gov/>

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/religion/2020/05/07/church-reopen-sing-masks-service/>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2020/06/choir-practice-during-pandemic/612868/>

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2020/may-web-only/when-churches-reopen-phase-coronavirus-covid-19-guidelines.html>