

Guidelines for Returning to Live Worship

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church.

These are the guidelines put out by Church Council to ensure as safe a return to live worship as possible, in accordance with rules set out by the Federal and Provincial Governments and due to our facility's structural design. Therefore, only one-third of pews are accessible.

PLEASE NOTE, IF YOU EXHIBIT ANY SYMPTOMS SUCH AS COUGH, SORE THROAT OR FEVER, OR HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH ANYONE EXHIBITING THESE SYMPTOMS IN THE LAST 14 DAYS, PLEASE STAY HOME AND JOIN US ONLINE AT www.stpaulottawa.org. Click on Covid19 Notice and then Live Streams.

- **For the safety of everyone, masks must be worn by all attendees. Since masks are in short supply, we ask that you bring your own. We do have a limited supply of disposable masks available.**
- **Please try to arrive 15 to 30 minutes early, to allow time to seat everyone before service.**
- **Maintain Physical Distancing of 2 meters from the time you get out of your vehicle, until you return to your vehicle. (No hand shaking, hugging, etc. please).**
- **Entry will be by the Ring Lane door beside Pastor Thompson's residence ONLY. We ask that you wait outside the door and remember to physical distance. An usher will record your attendance and then direct you to proceed to the Sanctuary where another usher will direct you to your pew.**
- **Please reserve the ramp entrance for those who require assistance.**
- **There will be hand sanitizer dispensed at the door as well as disinfectant wipes available inside to disinfect around your pew if you wish. Rest assured however this will be done before every service.**

- **Holy Communion will be offered at every service. So, as you enter, pick up a worship folder and a pre-dispensed wine and wafer packet from a table inside the door. One for each Communicant. (If possible, print a worship folder at home or use your smart phone or tablet to access the worship folder.)**
- **Please remain in your pew during service.**
- **Hymnals, registration pads and Bibles have been removed from the pews.**
- **For the time-being, to avoid potential spread of the virus, we hope to have a soloist singing the hymns.**
- **If you need to use a washroom, please do so observing distancing rules. Only the handicap washroom by the ramp door and the two near the kitchen downstairs will be available.**
- **Please avoid other areas of the church such as the kitchen and Long Meeting Room / Library.**
- **Offering baskets will not be passed. Those wishing to offer a financial gift at worship will be able to do so at the end of service, as you exit the church, by using the collection plates positioned at the back of the sanctuary. We of course encourage you to use our other giving options: online on our web-site and our automated offering program (EFT Canada).**
- **Once service is over, please wait to be ushered out. Exiting will be by Wilbrod St doors at the back. Side pews will exit side doors and center pews will exit the main doors.**
- **Receptacles will be placed at the back for worship folders and used communion packets.**
- **Anyone requiring the use of the ramp to exit after service, please remain seated until an usher assists you.**

Our purpose in developing these guidelines is to make worship as safe as possible. We welcome your feedback.

Jesus said, "Above all, love each other deeply" (1 Peter 4:8). Worshipping in this way at this time, is giving practical application to those words. God had Paul put it this way in Philippians 2:3-4, "In humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

We pray God will bring us out of this difficult time. Until he decides it is time, we must adhere to the safety measures put in place.

Thank you all for your understanding and cooperation during these difficult times. May God keep you in his care.

Looking forward to worshipping with you.

St. Paul Church Council