

## RETURNING TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP AT GLORY LUTHERAN

Here is what to expect:

### BEFORE WE GET TO CHURCH

- **Reserve your spot.** We can accommodate up to 50 people with appropriate physical distancing. Make a phone call to the church office indicating when and how many will be attending. We are working on setting up an online registration system and will let you know when that is in place. If you find later that you can't go, call the office to let us know so that we can accommodate someone else. If you have to cancel at the last minute – not to worry – we'll look forward to seeing you another time!
- **Assess your health.** Be prepared to answer appropriate health questions when you arrive at the church (see the COVID-19 Screening Checklist). Once the online registration system is set up, you may answer the questions online and simply confirm that nothing has changed when you arrive at church. Please note that staff, volunteers, and worshippers who are ill or have any common COVID-19 symptoms (cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose, or sore throat) must not attend. Individuals who have travelled internationally in the last 14 days, and individuals who have had close contact with confirmed COVID-19 cases in the last 14 days are prohibited by law from entering the place of worship.
- **Masks are required.** Plan to bring one to wear during the service; however, should you forget, masks will also be available at the church.

### UPON ARRIVING AT CHURCH

#### Welcome!

- Make your way to the front door while maintaining proper spacing between you (and your group) and others. **ENTER** through the front **right-hand** door of the set of doors on the right side. Someone will be there to welcome you, give you directions, and help maintain spacing.
- Hand sanitizer will be available to use just inside the door and throughout the church.
- Once inside the doors there will be tables arranged to help everyone keep proper spacing.
- A volunteer will ask the appropriate health questions OR ask if there have been any changes if the questionnaire was filled out online.
- A list with contact information will be kept of attendees, staff, and volunteers at all services in case someone later tests positive for COVID-19 and their movements must be traced. As providing personal information is voluntary, individuals will be asked to verbally consent to the collection of this information. The information will be kept secure for two weeks before it will be destroyed or deleted. In case of an on-site exposure, lists will be shared with Alberta Health Services and attendees will be notified of their possible exposure.
- Plan to keep your coat with you and hang it on the back of your pew chair.
- Bulletins will be on tables to pick up on your way into the sanctuary.

## **IN THE SANCTUARY AND AT WORSHIP**

- An usher will be at the door to the sanctuary to help guide you step-by-step. Everything will look much the same except for the seating. In order to achieve appropriate physical distancing, there will be 4 empty chairs between family groups, individuals, or cohort groups, and 2 meters between rows of chairs. Seating capacity will be at 50 according to present protocols. Do not expect that you will always be able to sit in the “usual” part of the church where you have been sitting in the past.
- Guidance from the Sunday bulletin will help you. Then the pastor will provide a brief orientation and introduction at the start of worship. Spacing between one another will continue to be observed.
- Congregational singing is not currently allowed (but humming behind a mask is okay). Special singing and lead singing for worship will be according to the virus protection protocols of the day and be announced in advance.
- There will be a mostly familiar order of worship with music as you follow it all in the Sunday bulletin.
- Sharing of the Peace will take place without physical contact.
- Offering will not be taken as usual. Instead, an offering plate will be at the back of the sanctuary and you can take your offering and place it there when you first arrive or on the way out. And of course, you can continue to use PAR or online methods for making an offering.
- There will be precautions taken during Holy Communion. These will be announced ahead of time and at the beginning of a service where Holy Communion is offered.
- Services may be a little shorter as we try to keep them to an hour or less.
- Children must remain with their parents at all times – even if a kids’ talk is offered. Children under two years old should be held by their family.
- There will be an orderly dismissal of worshippers in order to allow for proper distancing.

## **DEPARTING AND OTHER PROCEDURES**

- After worship ends for you/your group, please leave while maintaining proper distancing protocols. Greeting one another or visiting is probably best done outside – always while maintaining proper distancing.
- Unfortunately, there will not be coffee or other goodies served before or after services at this time.
- Using the washroom: You will notice that some areas have been taped off in order to allow for proper distancing. There is a limit of 2 persons at a time in each of the washrooms. If you peek around the corner and see that there are already 2 people in there, or if you call out “Marco” and hear two “Polos” in response, please wait until someone leaves.
- Please use hand sanitizer on your way out of the church.
- Rest assured that there will be additional cleaning protocols taken between services.
- Watch this space for future updates!