

Returning to our church buildings for Sunday services

For a while things will be a little different on Sunday, as we need to adhere to the government regulations regarding social distancing and hygiene. However, we look forward to welcoming you back to our physical Sunday gatherings from Sunday 6 September.

There are a number of requirements we need to meet as we resume meeting together. We ask for your patience as we start back again, but please be assured that the reopening team is working hard to enable us to regather in all of our buildings as soon and as safely as possible.

WHAT WILL IT LOOK LIKE WHEN WE REGATHER IN THE BUILDINGS? WHAT SHOULD YOU EXPECT?

- Please telephone or email the church office to tell us you are coming. Please do this **by 9am on the Friday before**. For that first Sunday that means 9am on Friday 4 September. This is because, initially, our capacity is limited
- Your names and telephone numbers will be taken on arrival in case we need to contact you about Covid-19 - track and trace
- Hand sanitisers are available at the entrance which we urge you to use
- You will be guided to a seat by an available welcomer
- Children are welcome in the service, but we are sorry that there will be no separate children's ministry or creche in our first weeks back.
- No paper notice sheets will be distributed, though these will continue to be available on our webpage or by can be emailed to you if you ask for them.
- Face coverings must be worn in indoor public spaces. Following the latest Scottish Government guidance it is mandatory to wear a face-covering in a place of worship. This means that you should wear a face covering throughout our time together, unless you have a medical condition, disability or other reason which exempts you from this restriction.
- There will be no singing
- We encourage electronic giving but a retiring offering can be left in a basket near to the exit by those who prefer to give cash.
- Where possible, please arrive by 5 minutes before the service start time so that you are seated in time. Note that, although we will be live streaming the service, only those leading, preaching, reading, leading prayers or taking part in interviews will appear on camera.

- Family groups / members of the same household or extended household can sit together
- Please observe 2 metre social distance at all times
- The disabled toilet will be available for use where necessary
- There will be no refreshments after worship, though you are free to bring a flask and meet outside on the lawn afterwards (while maintaining social distance!)
- Please leave the building immediately after the worship ends, as directed by the stewards.

PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND SERVICES IF:

- You feel unwell or are undergoing medical treatment
- You're displaying any symptom of Covid-19, (temperature, chills, sore throat, muscle aches, new continuous dry cough or a new loss of smell or taste)
- You have been diagnosed with a confirmed or suspected Covid-19 infection in the previous fortnight
- You have been in close contact with a person with a confirmed or suspected Covid-19 infection in the previous fortnight
- You have been advised by a doctor to self-isolate

We thank all those who have been busy working to make it possible for us to reopen our church buildings and halls so that we can begin to meet again.

Please pray for these plans and for the wider community. These are provisional and subject to change.

We'll need considerable patience and prayers in the coming weeks: patience with the difference that current regulations place on our Sunday gatherings, and prayers for a loving unity amongst us as a church family as we face the coming months together. The weeks to come will present us with a multitude of challenges, both as individuals and as a church family. It will call for each of us to be patient, bearing with one another in love (Ephesians 4:2).

For those unable to attend, the service will be available online at 10.30am on YouTube, Facebook & Periscope.