

Return to Worship F.A.Q.

Will online church still be an option?

Yes, we recognize that all of us have different needs and levels of comfort and that is OK! We will continue to offer our live stream, but the time will change to 10:30am start time on our Facebook page. The Hispanic live stream will also move to a start time of 12:30pm on their Facebook page.

Why do I have to register and how do I do that?

In order to comply with our community leaders, we will be offering in-person worship services at 50% capacity. In order to allow for proper social distancing and safety we need to make sure that everyone who wants to attend has a space. Registering allows us to stay within these guidelines.

To sign up online, please refer to the email sent out by Diane Green on Friday, July 17 about using Realm to sign up for the July 26 worship services. (Check your junk/spam folder) You may also call the church office at 515-225-1623 on Mondays thru Thursdays from 9am to 3pm and the Staff may help sign you up. **We will need everyone to sign up each week until notified we may meet safely at full capacity.**

Should we wear masks?

Yes, please do! We will have a few available but we recommend a face mask for each person attending and do your best to maintain social distance while entering and exiting the building.

What should we expect upon entering the building?

We are encouraging everyone to enter the main entrances on the East and West sides of our building although all doors will be unlocked. Please have each person use the hand sanitizer provided just inside each entrance and then make your way to our lobby/narthex area. We are asking each person to only enter the Sanctuary through the main doors so they may be properly escorted by the usher team. Please allow for social distancing upon entering the building and the Sanctuary. Do your best to leave six feet between you and the next person/family.

The restrooms located near the Family Life Center are the preferred restrooms we would like all guests and members to use. Please note that the

community drinking fountains have been turned off for sanitary reasons. Please plan to bring your own spill-proof beverage container to stay hydrated.

Will communion be offered?

At this time, we are planning to offer communion beginning on Sunday, August 16th and return to a rotating basis of communion offered at our 8:00am on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month. Communion would be offered at our 10:30am & 12:30pm worship services on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of the month.

Will I be able to sit where I normally sat?

Being Lutheran we understand why this may be important to you but to keep us as safe as possible we encourage you to follow the guidance of the usher staff. They will usher you once in the Sanctuary to the outer edge of the chairs and then have each person/couple/family move to the center and then allow a minimum of 2-3 in between the next person/couple/family. This will allow us to allow for some social distancing between people.

At the conclusion of the service the usher staff will dismiss each row from the center aisle beginning from the back row moving to the front. We find it similar to be like when you attend a wedding. We thank you in advance for following the guidance of these volunteers and quickly moving outside the building after the service and not linger inside the lobby/narthex area.

Will an offering be taken on-site?

Yes, you will be able to drop your offering off in the container as you enter or exit the Sanctuary. We will not be passing the plate as in the past for safety reasons. We will still offer online options including text giving, through the link on our website and mailing in your offering to the church. If you have any questions or concerns, please direct those to Sharon Bauer at sharon@sotv-wdm.org.

Will there be options for my children and students?

At this time on Sundays the nursery, children's ministry and high school ministry will **not** be offered. For sanitary reasons, the worship bags that were normally available for small children will **not** be available. We recommend each family bring their own activities to keep their children engaged during the worship services.

Will there be options for adults to have education classes?

At this time, we will not allow an adult education hour on site in order to allow as much social distancing as possible in between the worship services and a chance for cleaning. Our hope is to gradually add these types of educational opportunities back to our campus over time.

How are the areas being cleaned?

Volunteers will be wiping down surfaces and major touch points in between each worship service. We have also designed new ways to distribute communion in order to allow as much of a contactless experience as possible.