

Outdoor Worship Guidelines Updated 9/13/20

We are excited to continue our morning **outdoor services on Sundays, now at 9:30 a.m.** We want to encourage all who are able to join together in this time of worship. However, we also recognize and respect that those with health risks, heightened vulnerability, or those who are still concerned with gathering in public, may choose not to attend. The Session continues to support each person's decision as to what is wise and best for you and your family's circumstances. For those who choose not to attend the outdoor worship, we will continue to live stream the service, now at 9:30 a.m. and available on [our YouTube page](#). You can go back and watch the livestream recording at any time and/or [subscribe to our podcasts here](#).

It is important that we continue to practice social distancing measures and other recommended precautions before, during and after the service;

- **Social Distancing:** Maintain at least six feet distance between you and others outside of your immediate household during all the time we're together. This includes children for whom we ask parents to take special care to see that they keep that distance.
- **Hand Washing:** We provide hand sanitizer at the greeter table near the entrance to the property for you to use as needed.
- **Face Coverings:** We still encourage, but will not require, the use of face masks, as we will be outdoors and practicing social distancing. Face coverings are required inside the building. If you need a mask, please let us know.
- **Restrooms:** We encourage everyone to take care of restroom needs prior to coming on Sunday. Restrooms are available if absolutely necessary. In the event a restroom is needed, one person/family (parent must accompany a child) will be allowed inside the building for restroom use at a time.

We have elders and deacons greeting and helping to direct you to parking and seating areas and ensuring we can safely distance. We are looking to add to our greeter pool and are asking those who are able to help with set-up and tear down on Sunday mornings. Please [contact Jennifer Barry](#) for more details.

Here are a few other important practical matters to remember for Sunday morning.

- **Arrive early:** Worship will start at 9:30 a.m. so please plan on coming early (no later than 9:15) to get parked, seated and prepared to start on time.
- **Parking:** You may be directed to park near the pond to ensure there are available spots. This is back-in parking only for everyone's safety. If there are no spots by the pond or the outer lot, overflow parking is available across the street at PetroChoice or at our adjacent lot.
- **Seating:** Families should be properly distanced from each other in marked areas on the pavement or along the grassy areas. If you plan to remain in your vehicle, you will be directed where you can park and still see and tune into the service.
- **Chairs:** Please bring your own chairs and/or blanket to sit on. For those who cannot carry or do not have chairs, we will have some available on request.
- **Bulletins:** We will have one page printed bulletins and children's bulletins which will be handed out by a greeter. Bulletins will be available online as well if you prefer to print your own or read from a device.
- **Children:** All children will remain with their family before, during and after service. Parents are encouraged to bring drinks, snacks or other items younger children may need. We have a children's bulletin, activity sheets, and individually wrapped crayon packs available.

- **Rain Plan:** In the event of rain, we will meet inside at the 9:30 service time. Online worship resources will still be available.
- **Fellowship:** We do not provide coffee, water or refreshments before or after service and all gathering for fellowship on the grounds afterwards should continue with socially distanced measures.

Additionally:

- People should consider [CDC guidelines](#) regarding those who should take extra precautions in considering whether you should attend worship or stay at home and worship online.
- Please note YOU SHOULD NOT ATTEND IF:
 - You or anyone in your family is sick or have [COVID-like symptoms](#) currently or in the past two weeks.
 - If in the past two weeks, you or anyone in your family has come in contact with someone who has had a confirmed case of COVID-19 or you have reasonable cause to suspect you've been exposed.

While these guidelines may seem excessive, they are a means by which we heed God's call to be sensitive to the interests of others (Phil. 2:4), to be submissive to the governing authorities (Rom. 13:1), and to honor and care for one another in brotherly love (Rom. 12:9-13). If you have questions or other concerns, please contact one of the elders. As well, thank you for your continued patience, flexibility and understanding as we navigate the way forward in these days. We rejoice at the opportunity to gather with joyful hearts to worship the Lord, so let us pray for continued good weather this fall season and for God to be glorified in and through his people at Ambassador.

On behalf of the Session,
Pastor Warren