

Dear Ambassador Family,

This Sunday, July 5th, we will begin to offer both an outdoor and indoor service option on Sunday mornings. Please note that the outdoor service will begin a half-hour earlier at **9:00 am** and the indoor service will begin at **10:45 am**. In order to help us prepare and serve your family at each service, we'd ask you to please let us know which service you plan to attend [by filling out this brief form](#). As well, if you plan to attend the indoor service, please [review the guidelines we have in place](#). In the transition between services, we ask those at the early service to fellowship on the grassy areas surrounding the parking lot and to be attentive to cars arriving for the later service into the parking lot. As a reminder, we will not be posting a recorded service online beforehand but will be [livestreaming the indoor service on Youtube at 10:45 am](#).

As we make another transition amidst the uncertain times of this pandemic, I hearken back to the words of Psalm 46 which we looked at back on that first Sunday in March when all this began. ***“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.” (Psalm 46:1-2)*** When everything in life seems unstable and uncertain, when chaos and trouble seem to surround us on all sides, when it feels like the rug of life is continually being pulled out from under us, we are reminded that God is with us, he is our fortress (vs. 5,7,11). His presence brings security, strength, and stability. God in the midst of us and indeed in us through the Spirit of Christ means we have nothing to fear. His peace and provision are certain. The psalm ends with those familiar words, ***“Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in all the earth.” (vs. 10).***

It is easy in these times to give in to the fear and get caught up in the anxiety and unrest surrounding this pandemic. We as believers are not exempt from these troubling times, but we of all people are equipped to deal with such difficulties because we know the sovereign God of the universe who is with us and for us in Christ Jesus. Thus we can and should be still, at peace, trusting that God is God and he will be exalted and glorified.

Part of our purpose in gathering to worship Sunday mornings is to do just that. To come together as God's people, to worship God who is our refuge and strength, to look to him as our help in trouble, to behold his wondrous works in the gospel, and to find our rest in him as we exalt his name together. During these days, how we do that looks different than we're used to, and it presents different changes and challenges as we seek to love God with all our heart and love our neighbor as ourselves in the midst of a global health pandemic. Our efforts to provide opportunity for all to be able to worship at Ambassador, whether outdoors, indoors, or online is rooted in acknowledging and celebrating this reality: that God is our refuge and strength, he is our very present help, and he is to be exalted. So let us continue to move into this next phase without fear, but with great faith, resting in his grace to us as we continue to extend and show that grace to one another.

If you have any questions regarding either service, please contact me or one of the elders. I look forward to gathering again with you on Sunday.

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Warren

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