

Dear Good Shepherd Family of Faith,

Jesus said, “and surely I am with you always, even until the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20 EHV). No matter what happens, Jesus promises to be with each one of His baptized believers until the very end of human history. Remember that Jesus is with you!

We are pleased to share with you an update on our in-person worship guidelines. These considerations will be for both our 9:00am Sunday worship services and the restart of 7:00pm Thursday worship services. We continue to encourage each other to remain sensitive and loving as we return to worship in-person.

With this in mind, we offer these temporary changes which are planned for Good Shepherd for the weeks ahead.

Some General Thoughts

The fact that we are conducting in-person worship certainly does not mean that you are expected to be here. Yes, we want to return to the habit of worshipping together. Yes, we recognize the fact that some people are not yet ready. Our worship services continue to be live-streamed at www.1goodshepherd.org/live. Thursday in-person worship will start up again on July 9th.

If you are feeling sick or running a fever, please stay home!

If you are at a higher risk during this time, don't feel guilty about staying home!

If you feel more comfortable avoiding public interactions for a while longer, don't feel guilty about staying home!

Surfaces are disinfected between each worship service.

For those who plan on joining us for in-house worship, let's encourage each other with these guidelines.

As You Enter the Church

We want to minimize the touching of common items and do our best to maintain safe distancing between people. While masks and gloves are not required, you are welcome to wear either one. The two entrance doors will be propped open so that no one has to touch the handle. The east side door will remain closed. Hand sanitizer is available throughout the building. As you enter, you'll be able to check your church mailbox. If you wear a coat, please take it with you into church and do not use the hangers in the narthex. Please no handshakes or hugs. (Smiles are encouraged!) Remember to use social distancing when gathering in the narthex. The narthex restrooms will remain closed. If needed, use the individual restrooms located by the parent room. Use your elbow to push the door open if needed. As you leave the restroom, use the paper towel to open the door and dispose in the wastebasket. As you pick up your worship folder, keep moving into the sanctuary. There will be no communion sign-up sheet. To ensure social distancing sit in pews, including choir pews that do NOT have the blue tape.

During the Service

All hymnals and Bibles have been returned to the pews to assist you in worship as needed. Each order of service is also on the screen and printed in the worship folders. After the service, you will be ushered from the front to the back. (This allows us to avoid walking too close to others.) The offering plate will be available at the sanctuary doors for you to place your offering on the way in/out.

Lord's Supper (1st and 4th weekends)

Before you take your seat in a pew, pick up your communion wafer found in plastic bags that are located in a basket at the entrance to the sanctuary.

As is our custom, our online members will receive the Lord's Supper first. This is an appropriate time for in-person communicants to remove your wafer from

its plastic bag. After the online members commune, the ushers will then invite one person, couple or family of four at a time to step forward along each outside aisle. Remember to bring your wafer with you when you are invited forward. We will alternately usher groups to the altar from each aisle. When your receiving area is ready you may walk to the railing to kneel or stand as you prefer. As you eat the wafer, the communion assistant says, "take and eat, the body of Christ." Then take a plastic cup with wine from the tray located at the railing. As you drink the wine the communion assistant says "take and drink, the blood of Christ." A blessing will be given to each communicant group after which you may exit towards the center aisle, placing your empty cup in the usual basket. While exiting, be mindful to pause and distance from others that may also be returning from the other side of the altar area.

As You Leave Church

- Please remember to take with you any used worship folders, used plastic wafer bags or other items.
- Sunday Bible class resumes on July 12th. It will be held in the sanctuary. Those who plan to attend may exit but are asked to return or stay in the same pew they used for worship.

We look forward to worshipping with you either in-house or online.

Serving with you!

Pastor John T. Melke and Pastor Paul A. Tullberg

Alan Shephard, Church President

Conrad McGarry, Board of Elders Chairman