

Getting back to worship in the building



As we return to worship in our building, we know that things will be different for some time. However, we are committed to providing an authentic worship experience that enables us to collectively offer our praise and worship to God as a Church, and enables us to experience the presence of God together.

Introduction:

We are thankful that we are now permitted to open our buildings for prayer and worship. In order to do this, there are a number of changes that have by necessity been introduced to make our return as safe as it can be for everyone. As we start to return to some form of physical worship in our buildings it is important to remember that this will not be getting back to the way things were before Covid 19.

First and foremost, we need to acknowledge that not everyone will come, whether that is because some people still need to shield, or others feel vulnerable or scared to do so. As a church family we need to pause and hold together the pain of acknowledging that whilst we long to all be back together – this may take some time. We are working hard to ensure that the worship we offer continues to draw us together as one, no matter where we are. All of the services we do physically in church, will be available to view and participate in on-line.

Secondly, worship will be different. We won't be able to sing together, and will need to ensure we meet government and Methodist guidance.

This leaflet is aimed at ensuring we all know what is expected of us as we come back into the building and we need to start by highlighting when you need to stay away.

Do not attend church if...



When you arrive at church



The only way to access the building will be by the side entrance on Wordsworth Street, and there will be a strict procedure of the way you exit the building. You will also be asked to maintain safe social distancing from one another, with no physical contact between people in the building. All of this will be difficult to adhere to, but our concern for everyone's health and safety must be our priority. Hopefully, things will eventually be able to change!



You must wear a face covering on arrival. Please do try and bring a face covering with you, although we will have a limited stock available. There are exceptions to this requirement – see separate notice.



You will be asked to carry out hand hygiene on entry and exit. A steward will be on hand to point you in the right direction.



Please bring a pen with you to record your contact details.

We will be asking you to put your name and telephone number on a register of attendees so that contact tracing can be carried out if necessary. This information will be kept locked in the Church premises for 21 days and then shredded.



You will be directed to seating in the sanctuary that is appropriately social-distanced from others.

Family groups and 'bubbles' can sit together. Children must remain with their carers.



Hymn books will be available on the back of seats, but we would prefer people to follow the words projected on the screen. Any service sheets handed out must be taken home with you please



Your offering can be left in baskets near the exits



Once you are ready to leave the building you should follow the direction arrows to another hand hygiene point where once again, we ask that you use the sanitizer provided.



THANK YOU!

What if I can't get back?

We realise that some people will continue to shield and stay at home, and will feel unable to join us. We will therefore live- stream each service on YouTube, and it will be available to watch at any time after. We will also continue with our weekly podcasts, and send out our 'worship at home' sheets.



We expect COVID restrictions to apply for at least the rest of this calendar year in some way and so we will also continue the Zoom coffee mornings for as long as these events cannot take place in the building.

Any Questions?

For any further information or advice please phone or email Dave or Tim

