

## **Grace Church In- Person Worship Service Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. Will there continue to be a live stream option for Sunday Services?**

Yes, livestream services will continue to be available on our Grace Church YouTube channel. Click here for the link:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCys\\_mNMxm69fsqsggD8-RSA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCys_mNMxm69fsqsggD8-RSA)

### **2. How do I decide if I should attend in person?**

This is a decision you can make for yourself and your family based on your unique situation. There is no obligation to attend in person until you are comfortable doing so. Before planning to attend, however, you should review the COVID screening questionnaire. If you answer YES to any of the questions, you should refrain from coming to the service and continue to watch the livestream from home.

### **3. Why do I have to register for the in-person service?**

The Provincial Government has restricted the number of people attending any place of worship to 30% of capacity of the room we are meeting in and requires us to organize our seating to allow for physical distancing. Registration allows us to ensure we are meeting these requirements.

### **4. If I register and can't attend, am I required to let you know?**

Yes, if possible, so that if we have reached our capacity for seating through our registrations, we can let others who would still like to attend know that seating has become available. Let us know by e-mailing [info@gracechurch.ca](mailto:info@gracechurch.ca) or calling the church office 905-895-1119.

### **5. Why do I also have to check-in to the service when I arrive?**

We must have a listing of the individuals that actually attend the service each week to be available for COVID contact tracing if needed. Some people may register but not attend and may not have notified us. Check-in allows us to confirm who is actually in the service.

**6. If I don't register but come to the in-person service can I still participate?**

Only if room is available. If we have already reached our 30% capacity, we cannot let others in who have not registered.

**7. Is wearing masks required?**

Yes. York Region has a "mandatory mask" requirement for all public places. This includes places of worship. Masks will be required to be worn at all time while inside the church. Exceptions include:

- Children under 5 years of age
- Anyone who cannot wear a Face Covering because of a medical condition
- Anyone who cannot place or remove a Face Covering without assistance

We want to adhere to government regulations but also see wearing a face covering as a way to show consideration for those around us as it helps protect them as well as ourselves.

If you are not comfortable wearing a face mask, please consider staying at home and continuing to watch the services on our YouTube channel.

**8. Will those participating in the service wear masks?**

All staff and volunteers assisting with the service will be wearing masks. Those that will be leading worship and speaking at the front will remove their mask while on the platform and will maintain physical distance from other people. They will put a mask on when moving off the platform.

**9. Can I choose my own seat?**

Seating will be assigned by the ushers on duty. To manage traffic flow we must seat people in a specific order filling up the front seats first and moving toward the back.

**10. If I require special seating due to a physical disability will this be accommodated?**

Yes, this can be indicated when you register. When you arrive to check-in someone will direct you to this seating area.

## **11. Will the service be the same as it was before COVID?**

Some elements will be the same however some will be different than what you are used to. The primary differences are:

- **Singing** – loud speaking and singing creates a higher risk of COVID transmission. This is mitigated to some degree by wearing a mask. We ask, however, that you refrain from loud singing but are permitted to sing along quietly or hum along as the worship team leads.
- **Communion** – We will be partaking in communion on the first Sunday of each month as we usually do. However pre-packaged communion elements will be available to be picked up prior to entering the Auditorium.
- **Offering** – We will not be passing an Offering Plate in the service. You are encouraged to drop your offering in a box that will be provided by the Auditorium doors.
- **Pew Materials** – There will be no materials in the pews such as Bibles, Care Cards, Offering Envelopes, pens. You are encouraged to bring your own Bible and writing materials.
- **Bulletin** – There will be limited bulletins available on a table as you enter the Auditorium. We will continue to email the Bulletin and Prayer & Praise sheets each week.
- **Greetings** – We will refrain from handshakes, hugs or any physical contact.

## **12. Will there be any children's programs on Sunday?**

Currently there are no Sunday children's programs. Children must accompany their parents in the service. There will be ROCK activity sheets available for the children during the service that can be picked up on your way into the auditorium. Please bring your own pens/pencils/crayons for your children to use.

## **13. Will the Nursery facilities be available?**

No, there will be no Nursery available.

## **14. How will we exit the auditorium?**

Each group will be dismissed by the ushers to ensure physical distancing is maintained.

**15. Will there be washroom facilities available?**

Yes, however at a limited capacity. Attendees are encouraged to use their washrooms at home prior to coming to church. Children must be accompanied to the washroom by a parent or guardian. Only one person can be in the washroom at a time (or a parent and child together).

**16. Will I be able to go to other areas within the building?**

No. The Fellowship Room will be closed and the gym and kitchen areas will also not be accessible to the general public.

**17. Can I visit with people before or after church?**

Once checked-in you will be directed right into the auditorium. Once the service has ended and you have been dismissed from your seats you are asked to proceed directly outside. You may visit in the parking lot while you practice physical distancing with others.

**18. Will other programs other than the Sunday Service be offered in person?**

Some ministry groups are meeting in-person. We will keep the congregation informed by email. You can also check our website. Some ministries will continue to be offered virtually.

**19. Will the Church be open during the week?**

The church is open to the public during the week. Please contact the office if you plan to come to the church outside of these activities so we can plan for your visit.