



***COVID-19 Preparedness & Safety Plan
for worship services, celebrations & events***
(e.g., baptisms, weddings, funerals, Bible studies, groups)

We understand that there is an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19, as well as other contagious diseases, which exists in any public place where people are present. While we encourage your thoughtful participation in spiritual gatherings, St. Peter's will continue to provide weekly online messages as an alternative.

If you have any symptoms of sickness we ask you to remain home.

The following precautionary measures are in place:

- **FACEMASKS:** Facemasks are not required, but not discouraged if someone feels they desire to protect themselves. As we continue to see variants of COVID-19, please feel free to mask. We encourage the wearing of masks for those who are vulnerable or uncomfortable being around others. Disposable facemasks are available at the Welcome Center upon request.
- **SOCIAL DISTANCING:** Sanctuary chairs are arranged so that people are physically separated. (Families and friends are welcome to pull chairs together.)
- **SEATING CAPACITY:** Seating is currently set up for 100 people with chairs arranged in a physically distanced manner. As distancing allows, additional seating may be added adhering to fire capacity limits.
- **OTHER WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:** We remind people that no one is obliged to come if they do not feel safe. St. Peter's will continue to provide online worship options so that you can still participate.
- **SINGING:** Worshipers are welcome to participate.
- **OFFERING:** Offerings will be collected in a container just inside the sanctuary. Online giving is encouraged.
- **COMMUNION:** Communion takes place at the altar rail. If someone is not comfortable approaching the altar with others, they may stay in their seats and signal (raise a hand) that they would like communion. We also offer individual sealed elements available at the Welcome Center.
- **ELECTRONIC SCREENS:** We will provide the order of worship and Scripture on the screens in worship. A digital bulletin will be available to be accessed electronically.
- **FELLOWSHIP:** Food and beverage will be provided with sanitation safeguards in place.
- **OTHER CHURCH EVENTS:** Bible studies, prayer gatherings, and other recreational, educational, or support meetings are allowed.
- **VENTILATION:** Fresh air has been increased in the building at all times utilizing our HVAC filtered system.

- **CLEANING & DISINFECTING:** Hand sanitizer stations will be available along with sinks with soap and paper towels. The space will be thoroughly sanitized including all entryways and doors. For the safety and peace of mind it can afford our staff, students, parents and the worship community, a COVID-19 Disinfecting Program will be provided by MN Services using CDC approved disinfecting guidelines in classrooms, bathrooms, offices, sanctuary, handrails, elevator buttons, drinking fountains, door handles, light switches and other touch points using a hospital grade disinfectant that is a virucide against HUMAN CORONAVIRUS, as well as over 20 other viruses.
- **SYMPTOMS:** Anyone showing any symptoms of sickness, or anyone who has a household member who is sick or showing symptoms of sickness should wait to attend. If leadership becomes aware of a clear, immediate, and imminent threat to the safety of the attendees or determines that the above-mentioned protocols cannot be observed, the gathering will be cancelled until concern is alleviated and protocols can safely be observed.

In order to safeguard the children and faculty of the Early Childhood Education Center, entrance to areas where children are present will not be allowed Monday – Friday from 8am to 5pm. Access to the sanctuary, offices, and the Discipleship Room on the west end of the facility will be allowed.

We continue to pray for you – our St. Peter's Family!

These protocols have been developed based on current guidance issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other public health authorities.

5/3/2022