

Immanuel Regina Covid-19 Protocol for In-Person Public Worship

October, 2020

Because of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, and the continued risk to health of the public, Immanuel has agreed to abide by the guidelines for having in-person worship set forth by the Government of Saskatchewan including the following:

1. Guidelines for accommodating worship.
2. Guidelines for hygiene and cleaning.
3. Guidelines for higher risk activities.

In particular, these are the procedures for in-person worship at 3233 Argyle Road

- All parishioners will be required to signal their intention to worship at Immanuel on a given Sunday. Reservations are made either online or by calling the Immanuel main phone number. Only the recommended number of parishioners will be allowed in the church at one time so that we can maintain a physical distance of six feet from one another. Persons from the same household may sit together. If the church is full on a particular Sunday, you will be advised of this at the time you have tried to register.
- If you have Covid-19 symptoms, or have been exposed to anyone with the symptoms, parishioners are asked not to attend the service.
- All parishioners over the age of two years must wear a mask while waiting outside to come into the building, and at all times while in the building. Children must be under the control of their parents at all times, will not have a separate area in which to sit, and may not move around the church.
- Coats will not be hung in the narthex. Parishioners will wear their coats/sweaters, to their seats.
- Parishioners will enter through the west doors and exit through the east doors. Doors will be marked for entry and exit, and a physical barrier will exist between the doors to discourage crossing from one side to another.
- Parishioners will be asked to maintain social distance outside the church building. They will be invited to enter one by one (or in a family group) by an usher, at which time they will be given an appropriate amount of hand sanitizer to properly wash their hands.
- After sanitizing their hands, parishioners will proceed to the registration table where their name will be marked as in attendance, and contact information will be confirmed. Questions about current health and exposure risks will be asked.
- After registration, an usher will guide parishioners to a seat. Seats are marked where parishioners may sit, and there will be no deviations allowed from this. People will be seated, at a minimum, two meters apart.

- Consideration may be given to having parishioners in the choir loft if the need arises. Additional precautions will have to be taken as there is only one way up and one way down from the loft, and handrails must be used by most to ascend the stairs.
- Clergy will enter from the Vestry and will not process up the center aisle or down the center aisle when the service is concluded.
- Parishioners will be advised not to use the washroom except in case of extreme emergency. Those who must are asked to turn the taps on and off using a paper towel, and not their bare hands.
- There will be no hymns sung during the services, but music may be provided from the piano, organ, or sound system.
- At Eucharist, the priest will offer the bread only, at the bottom of the stairs. An usher will guide the flow of people, spraying hands and ensuring the proper social distance is maintained. The first row on the right (west) side of the church will go first, followed by the first row on the left (east) side, then back to the right side with the next row, etc. After receiving the bread, if you are seated on the right side of the church you will follow the arrows to the right and up the side aisle back to your row, and if you are seated on the left side of the church you will follow the arrows to the left and up the side aisle to your row.
- At the conclusion of the service, parishioners will remain seated until an usher directs them out to ensure that proper social distancing is maintained.
- Coffee and snacks will not be offered after the services. Parishioners will be asked to leave immediately following the services as. Clergy will not be available to shake hands after the conclusion of the service.
- Should parishioners wish to speak with a member of the clergy, they are asked to telephone them with their concerns or questions.