

What to Expect for In-Person Indoor Worship at Peace Lutheran Church

The reopening date for in-person indoor worship at Peace is Sunday July 25. What a blessing to be able to worship together again as a community of faith in our worship space! It has been such a long time! **We will offer two worship services again, 8:30 am and 11 am each Sunday in the sanctuary.** The Reopening Task Force has decided that until the pandemic risk reaches a lower threshold, we will continue to practice COVID safety measures. This is an important way we show love and care for our neighbors, especially the most vulnerable among us, which includes children who have not been vaccinated. Please show respect for one another, and please commit to following these guidelines for the health, safety, and well-being of our entire community. **We will continue to live stream 11 am worship on the church's Facebook page and post the video to the church's YouTube channel to be viewed afterwards.**

Here's what to expect for in-person indoor worship.

1. **We will manage capacity with an online RSVP system.** For each worship service, a maximum of 40 individuals will be permitted to RSVP. In the week prior to Sunday worship, RSVP online or contact the church office (plcadmin@peacetacoma.org or 253-383-1317). We will leave room for 10-15 drop-in visitors each Sunday, planning for 50-60 worshippers in the sanctuary (limited capacity) for each worship service. If you RSVP and decide not to attend, please make sure to cancel your RSVP to open up space for others.
2. **When folks arrive for worship, they will come to the outside door near the church office** (or enter the handicapped accessible entrance near the kitchen) and check in immediately at the Welcome table, where they will do a no-contact temperature check and check in so we are able to track attendees and maintain contact information. Worship bulletins will be available as well as masks.
3. **We will sit in household units maintaining social distancing in the sanctuary.** Seating areas will be marked on the pews, and ushers will help folks find their seats.
4. **We will require masks for those ages 3 and up.** Singers and worship leaders will remove their masks when leading. Masks will be available at the Welcome table if you need one.
5. **Congregational singing will be permitted** during worship as long as folks are wearing masks.
6. **We will open windows and utilize overhead fans to increase airflow** in the sanctuary.
7. **We will seek to avoid physically touching one another.** Please greet one another and pass the peace by sharing a sign of peace such as folded hands, a bow, a wave, or a verbal "God's peace."
8. **We will use pre-packaged Communion** that each individual will pick up at the Welcome table upon entrance and share at their seat during Communion time.
9. **We will not pass around Offering baskets;** instead, a locked Offering box will be available at the Welcome table to receive financial offerings for those who choose to bring an offering in person. **We encourage continued online giving and offerings sent to the church office.**
10. **Fellowship time will be outside only.** We will not gather indoors to share fellowship. There will be no faith education activities between services in August.
11. **Restrooms in the multipurpose room will be limited to two persons at a time.**
12. **We will thoroughly clean all trafficked areas.**