



LEANDER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

In-Person Worship Complete Safety Protocol (COVID-19)

As we begin to offer in-person worship as one of our worship options, we want to share details about the new safety protocols that are in place so you can know what to expect when you arrive and feel safe as you attend worship service. Here's what you need to know:

1) REGISTRATION

You **MUST** register for Worship service prior to Sunday. To properly social distance, sanctuary capacity is limited and only those who successfully register for service will be able to attend. If spots are filled and you are not able to register, online worship options will still be available and we encourage you to worship with us from home.

- You may register each week by visiting the homepage of our website (www.leanderumc.org) or by using the link in the weekly email newsletter. You may also register by calling the church office (512-259-1284).
- At this time, we will offer one in-person service each week at 11:00 am. week we will trade off between a traditional service and contemporary service.
- By registering, you agree that Leander United Methodist Church cannot guarantee that you or your family will not be exposed to or contract COVID-19 while on the church campus. You will not hold LUMC responsible for any claim related to exposure to or contraction of COVID-19.
- By registering you are agreeing to self-screen prior to coming to church and staying home if you have any symptoms related to virus, especially fever.

SELF-SCREENING QUESTIONS:

To the best of your knowledge, you, your family, or anyone with whom they have had close contact with:

- 1) Is not currently experiencing flu like symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, difficulty breathing) or has not experienced these symptoms in the last 14 days
- 2) Has been not been diagnosed with COVID-19, does not have a COVID -19 test result pending, or has not been asked to self-quarantine.
- 3) Has not had close contact with, cared for, or is living in the same household as someone diagnosed with COVID-19, within the last 14 days.
- 4) Has not traveled to any region, state, or country that is designated as having widespread COVID outbreaks during the last 14 days.

2) GENERAL NOTES

- Please respect everyone's personal decision about whether to stay home or come to in-person worship.
- Do not come to church if you do not feel well; signs of illness or fever upon arrival will keep you from entering the building/attending in-person worship.

- All accessible doors will be propped open, so you will not have to touch door handles. Please do not use doors that are closed.
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building.
- Nursery and Children’s Sunday School will remain suspended at this time. Kids will be seated with their parents. For families with children, activity bags will be available at the door. The bag should be returned as you leave the Sanctuary and they will be sanitized for the next use.
- Restrooms will be open, but we are asking that only one person be in the restroom at a time. We encourage you to use the restroom at home before you come to church.
- These protocols are in place to protect yourself and others; please be mindful and remember to “love your neighbor” by following the safety guidelines.
- If you are comfortable coming to worship in person, please consider volunteering to help usher, as we need ushers to help us minimize the risk. Contact the church office.

3) ENTERING/EXITING THE BUILDING

- Masks are required. Keep in mind that masks are a way to love your neighbor and minimize risk of getting sick. Please bring your own mask. If you do not have a mask, disposable masks will be available at the door.
- Temperature Check will be taken at the door while entering to reassure all participants.
- Anyone who arrives not having registered will be on “standby” for any available seating after registered attendees have all been seated.
- Please keep 6 ft of distance from others not in your family unit.
- Following service, you will exit the building the same way you entered.
- Families with children will pick up a children’s activity bag as you enter the building.

5) ENTERING/EXITING THE SANCTUARY

- You may enter through the glass door to the sanctuary. Please keep traffic flow toward sanctuary until after the service. Doors and aisles will be kept clear for worship & tech team safety.
- Ushers will guide you and your family to your seats. After service, please remain seated until an usher dismisses you.
- Pews will be reserved for each ‘in-person’ service and will be disinfected after use.

6) DURING SERVICE

- We will not have pew Bibles or hymnals available, but you are welcome to bring your own.
- Greeting and movement will be limited by social distancing practices. Please respect boundaries and it doesn’t hurt to ask permission for or refuse a gesture of touch. It’s compassionate to be mindful of reducing the risk of spreading germs with our neighbors.
- We ask that you wear a mask while indoors at all times.

- The aisle of the sanctuary will be kept clear for worship leaders & tech team safety. Please remain seated until service ends.

7) CLEANING PROTOCOL:

Our Custodian will clean the facilities on her regular schedule. We will need volunteers to help clean occupied space after services to minimize risk and promote health safety. Cleaning supplies are available in all areas so individuals can clean before and after use as needed.

Here are some details concerning sanitation:

- All common surfaces will be cleaned thoroughly before services including countertops, pews, restrooms, and more.
- Longer time between services will allow for cleaning and air exchange.
- Hand sanitizer and trash cans will be available throughout the facility.