

Gathering for worship

How do I know if I'm ready to attend worship yet?

- If you're sick, please stay home. Continue to use the 'Faith at home' resources.
- If you're in a higher risk category (such as over 70 and/or are immunosuppressed), you may wish to stay away from worship for a little longer. Continue to listen to health advice on the risks of community transmission and use the 'Faith at home' resources.
- If you're worried about the risks of infection at worship, it's ok to stay home. Continue to use the 'Faith at home' resources.
- If you agree to abide by the precautions listed below, you may return to worship.

When I come to worship, what changes should I expect?

- The best defence against any risk of infection is distance and good hygiene. We will practice these as we gather for worship. We will keep at least 1.5-2 metres between each other. We will provide hand sanitizer for people to use as they enter and exit the church building.
- This means we won't shake hands or give each other hugs, but we'll smile and wave at each other. We'll talk to each other and show concern for each other, but we'll maintain safe distances. We won't be scared to politely ask for more distance between us and those around us if we feel unsafe.
- According to NSW health regulations, we'll need to record the names and contact details of all people at each worship service to track any possible infection. There will be a sheet to record this as you enter the church building, but we ask you to provide your own pen.
- The glass doors may remain open so people won't need to touch the door handles. If you plan on sitting near those doors (or near the back of the church), please dress appropriately knowing you may feel a cold draft. This may also mean the rest of the church will be cooler than normal, so dress appropriately.
- We won't be handing the offering bags around. Please place your offering in the container provided as you enter the church building. It will be brought forward during the normal offering time. If your offering is done via REG, you don't need to include a giving card.
- You're allowed to sit with those you live with, but we ask you to sit at least 1.5 metres from anyone else. This will mean some pews will be unavailable so that we can maintain the same distance in front and behind you.
- We won't be encouraging singing (which might propel any possible virus further than normal speaking). We'll be using music videos for meditation. Humming is allowed.
- We won't be having morning tea after worship yet. You may still gather outside to chat, but bear in mind that those who attend the earlier service will need to leave the church grounds before members turn up for the next service. We don't want to turn them away because we have too many people gathered on our church grounds. If you choose to gather with a small group of people at a café instead, that's ok.

- On Sunday 21st of June, the church will need to be cleaned between services. This will mean we'll be looking for volunteers who are willing to serve others by helping to clean the pews, door handles, and any other surfaces people might touch. The toilets will also need to be well cleaned.

What about Holy Communion?

- The pastor will be the only person to touch the elements of bread and wine. He will thoroughly wash his hands before handling these. He will also wear a face mask. Any assistants will also wash their hands thoroughly and wear face masks.
- The wine will be served in individual cups only.
- Pastor will distribute Holy Communion by moving through the vacant pews directly to you. Please clearly indicate if you don't wish to receive it at this time.
- It's ok not to receive Holy Communion if you don't want to. You may use this time to meditate and pray.