



CHRIST CHURCH
HAMILTON & WENHAM

In-Person Worship FAQ

We're so excited to gather again in person at Christ Church! Our goal is to worship together safely, so you'll see that there are a number of new processes and procedures to help us maintain social distancing and limit exposure. Here are a few important things to know before you join us:

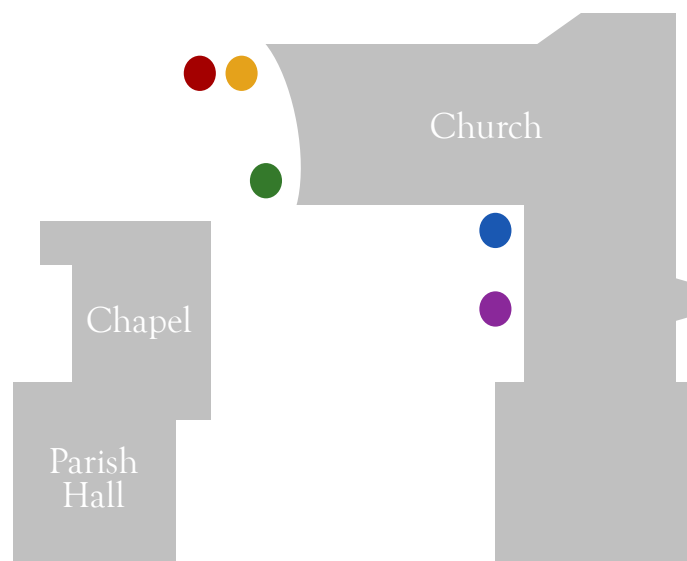
How does the reservation system work?

We have a new online reservation system that will allow you to select a block of seats based on the size of your household. When you make your reservation each week, you will also complete a medical attestation that you are COVID-19 symptom-free and have not been exposed to any active cases. This is important for both managing building occupancy and potential contact tracing. Reservations are available on our website at www.christchurchhw.org and each Sunday's seats will "open" for booking 48 hours in advance. *Please still reserve a "spot" if you're planning to sit outside or in your car so that we can plan for communion.*

Where do I go when I arrive at the church?

In order to maintain safe distancing and orderly entry, please wait at the designated door according to your reservation. 8:00 AM attendees, please enter via the main chapel entrance. For the larger 10:00 AM service, please find your designated door according to the map below:

- Left Front Pews
- Left Rear Pews
- Right Front Pews
- Right Rear Pews
- Transept



Will the church look and feel different?

Yes and no! Fundamentally, the space and our presence together will be much the same, but a few things will be different. We have established thorough cleaning and sanitation protocols, removed difficult to clean surfaces like books and kneelers, and have provided additional hand sanitation stations throughout the church. The sanctuary and chapel have clearly marked, color coded seating zones that will make it easy to find your space.

What safety protocols must I follow when at the church?

Wear a mask at all times, stay 6 feet apart from others, and sanitize your hands frequently. (State guidance indicates that children under 2 should not wear masks, and children up to age 5 may wear a mask at parents' discretion.)

How will I follow along in the service?

In an effort to minimize contact, we will not be printing paper bulletins for all parishioners as in the past. Instead, both parishioners worshipping with us remotely and those in person will be encouraged to pull up the digital bulletin on your device (or print in advance at home). Each week's digital bulletin is linked at christchurchhw.org/worship-learning, and there will also be a sign at each entrance with a code you can scan with your phone or tablet's camera to pull up the bulletin. A small number will be printed and available for those who need it.

Will we be able to receive communion?

Yes. The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts has now approved communion "in one kind" meaning bread only. In order to maintain social distancing, clergy will bring the bread to you in your seat.

Can I sing?

Current state guidelines indicate that singing, even with a mask, creates too much potential exposure to the virus to be safe. For the time being, we invite you to enjoy the music and follow along with the lyrics printed in the bulletin for your reflection. This applies to both those worshipping in the church and those outside in the courtyard.

Can I use the restrooms?

Yes. To maintain social distancing, we ask that there only be one person/household in the restroom at a time.

How should I exit the sanctuary after the service?

Please wait for a greeter to dismiss your row and proceed straight outside via the door you entered.

Will there be refreshments?

Coffee hours and hospitality are central to so much of our life together as a parish, but at this time, state guidelines indicate that it is not safe to allow food or drink on the church campus, except for water for the purpose of hydration. For young children, please keep snacks to a minimum and only outside.

Will there be any adult formation classes on Sunday morning?

Yes. On September 13 at 9:00 AM, we will begin our fall Adult Ed series in the Parish Hall. All Adult Ed classes will also be streamed on Facebook Live for those who prefer to participate from home. Space will be limited, per state guidelines, so please plan to reserve your spot.

What about children and youth programming?

We are currently working on a plan for outdoor family programming as well as middle and high school formation options. Details coming soon!

Will nursery care be available during the 10:00 AM service?

At this time, diocesan guidelines prohibit nursery care. Families are more than welcome to bring little ones into the service or to participate in the outdoor courtyard space. Although playgrounds are unavailable at this time, kids are welcome to move around outside with parental oversight.

What will be different for children before and after the service?

While we typically enjoy our youngest parishioners' freedom to run and play together before and after services, we must ask parents to please keep your children with you and do your best to keep households socially distanced, for the safety of everybody.