



COVID-19 Preparedness & Safety Plan for worship services and other celebrations (e.g. baptisms, weddings, and funerals)

We understand that there is an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19, as well as other contagious diseases, which exists in any public place where people are present.

If you are vulnerable for any reason, we are encouraging you to remain at home.

If you have any symptoms of sickness or have been around anyone who has shown symptoms, we ask you to remain home for at least 14 days.

The following precautionary measures will be put in place:

- **ENTRANCES:** Doors will be propped open and one-way traffic patterns will be introduced to ensure social distancing. Ushers will assist when necessary to help maintain physical distancing.
- **SOCIAL INTERACTION:** People will be instructed not to greet each other with touching, hand shaking, hugs or kisses.
- **SEATING CAPACITY:** Seating will be limited to 50 people. Should such a group be anticipated, additional worship opportunities will be added.
- **OTHER WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:** We will continue to remind people that no one is obligated to come if they do not feel safe. St. Timothy's will continue to provide online worship options so that they can still participate.
- **SIGNAGE:** Signs and other instructions will encourage normal safe practices necessary to stop the spread (e.g. social distancing; cough or sneeze into a shirtsleeve, handkerchief, or tissue; avoid touching the eyes, nose, and mouth to help slow the spread of germs).
- **FACEMASKS:** People will be required to bring and wear their own protective wear as mandated by the Governor. Facemasks will be provided if they do not have their own. Children over the age of five will be required to wear face masks and stay with their family while in the building.
- **SINGING:** iCasa Praise team will need to social distance. No congregational singing will be allowed.
- **OFFERING:** Offering will be collected in a container just outside the sanctuary. No items will be passed person to person.

- **RESTROOM USAGE:** Restroom usage is limited to 2 people at a time to encourage Social distancing. Signage will indicate where people should stand in line to wait for the restroom maintaining 6-foot distance from each other. Sanitary wipes will be available in the restroom. Handwashing is mandatory for 20 seconds. A clean team will sanitize the restroom in between each use.
- **COMMUNION:** For the immediate future, individual sealed elements will be available to pick up at the entrance to the sanctuary. Worshipers will partake of Communion from their seats rather than coming forward to the altar.
- **ELECTRONIC SCREENS:** To avoid the spread of germs, hymnals and Bibles have been removed from the chair racks. Participants are encouraged to bring their own hymnal or Bible or borrow a copy from the church that will remain in your possession until after the Pandemic is past.
- **FELLOWSHIP:** Food and Beverage Distribution will be suspended, and worshippers are not to gather except in the sanctuary or outdoors provided that proper social distancing is observed.
- **VENTILATION:** Will be increased in the Sanctuary utilizing our HVAC filtration system with a percentage of fresh air at all times.
- **CLEANING & DISINFECTING:** Hand sanitizer stations will be available along with sinks with soap and paper towels. The space will be thoroughly sanitized before and after each service, including all entryways and doors and hand wiping surfaces. For the safety and peace of mind it can afford our staff, students, parents and the worship community, a COVID-19 Disinfecting Program will be provided by MN Services using CDC approved disinfecting guidelines in classrooms, bathroom, offices, sanctuary, hand rails, elevator buttons, door handles, light switches and other touch points using a hospital grade disinfectant that is a virucide against COVID-19, as well as over 20 other viruses.
- **SANCTUARY CHAIRS:** The fabric will be cleaned with an aerosol spray of 58% alcohol and/or liquid solution of 75% alcohol. The legs will be cleaned with ‘Clorox’ or ‘Lysol’ wipes. No bleach products can be used on the cushions of the chairs as it will destroy the fabric.
- **SYMPTOMS:** Anyone showing any symptoms of sickness, or anyone who has a household member who is sick or showing symptoms of sickness should not attend; this includes pastors and musicians. If leadership becomes aware of a clear, immediate and imminent threat to the safety of the attendees or determines that the abovementioned protocols cannot be observed, the gathering will be canceled until the protocols can be observed.

Welcome back.

We continue to pray for you - our St Timothy's & iCASA Families!

These protocols have been developed based on current guidance issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other public health authorities.

To be clear, each step we take brings risk and responsibility for all. Those who disregard public health guidance endanger not only themselves, but their families and neighbors.

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church & iCASA IGLESIA CASA DE DIOS

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