

Gathered Worship at Wheatland

Service Details

- Wheatland will start holding in-person worship services on June 21st at 8am, 10am, and 12pm. Attendance will be limited at each service:
 - 8:00am = 85 (65 in sanctuary / 20 in fellowship hall)
 - 10:00am = 85 (65 in sanctuary / 20 in fellowship hall) Also, livestreamed on YouTube.
 - 12:00pm = 70
 - This allows space for visitors.
- Each family will need to sign up for the service they plan to attend, via a Sign-up Genius that will be posted the Monday before our worship service. This will help us limit numbers and keep proper spacing for each service.
- We strongly encourage those in “at-risk” groups, to continue to worship with us via our livestream service. We ask for anyone who is or has recently been sick, had a fever, or shown any COVID-19 symptoms to continue to livestream at home.
- We will not have infant nursery, toddler nursery, or children’s worship training at this time. There will be a room available for nursing mothers. We ask that parents sit with their children as a family.

Guidelines and Expectations

- Masks: We are requiring all attenders to wear a mask or face shield while in the church building. You may bring your own mask (or face covering) or we will have masks available for you to use.
 - We have set this expectation for three reasons:
 - **Loving our Congregation:** There are some members of our congregation and potential visitors who will be much more comfortable worshipping with us if everyone is wearing a mask. Wearing a mask is an opportunity for us to serve our fellow Wheatlanders and any visitors that might be attending our services.
 - **Preserving our Witness:** Whether or not one wears a mask has become a visible sign about whether we care about the health of our community or if we only care about our individual freedoms. Wearing a mask is an opportunity for us to minimize the community concerns that our gathered worship is a threat to their safety.
 - **Mitigating Risk while Singing:** Recent studies have found that congregational singing is one of the most aggressive ways to spread COVID-19 through air particles. Wearing masks is an opportunity for us to continue to sing in our worship together, while also mitigating risk as much as possible.
 - If there is a medical reason that you are unable to wear a mask, we offer two suggestions:
 - The CDC has recommended the use of a face shield for those who cannot wear a mask. Because the shield is not against your face, it allows you to breathe more freely. These are available for purchase online. We will have a very limited amount on site.
 - If there are others in our congregation that cannot gather with us because of health conditions, you may be able to connect with them and worship together at a safe distance in each other’s homes or on their patio.
 - Masks and Children: We recognize that wearing a mask is a struggle for children. The CDC recommends that children 2 and under to not wear a mask, so we encourage the

same. For children older than 2, we ask that parents do their best to keep their children wearing masks.

- We know that some children will struggle to keep their masks on throughout the service. We also know that there will be more children than normal in our sanctuary, because of the lack of nurseries. So, there may be more noise in our sanctuary than we are used to. We do not expect perfection from our children. This time of isolation and new routines has also been hard on our little ones. We ask our congregation to show grace and consideration for the children who are worshipping among us.
- Social Distancing: All attendees will enter through the front doors of the narthex, be seated by ushers, and exit through designated doors (Sanctuary: NW exit / Fellowship Hall: West Exit). After the service, we encourage you to fellowship with one another outside, observing medical recommendations to mitigate risk. Moving your conversations outside will give us the time and space to sanitizing our building before the next service.
- “Touch-less” Service: As much as we are able, our service will be “touch-less.” Our greeters/ushers will not be shaking hands, our Order of Worship will be passed out with gloves, offering plates will be at the front and rear of the sanctuary, and exterior/interior doors will be kept open. On Communion Sundays, we will also be distributing the bread and wine differently.
 - After the service, we will have open trash cans for your communion cups and your Order of Worship.

Sanitation

- We will have teams cleaning high contact surfaces (pews, chairs, door handles, bathrooms, etc...) in between each service.
- Attendees are strongly encouraged to wash hands and to bring and use hand sanitizer while present. We will have a limited amount of hand sanitizer on-site for use.