



The
United
Reformed
Church

Christ Church, Buntingford

Baldock Road, Buntingford, Herts. SG9 9AA

29 July 2021

PLEASE READ & RETAIN

To all regular members of the congregation,

Now the church has re-opened the Elders have reviewed the Government and URC guidance and are making some changes to our procedures as we move out of lockdown. We expect the processes will change over time, hopefully easing, but we would encourage you all to read the following guidance and do your best to adhere to it. Clearly there are no legal restrictions now, but in order to show consideration for others in the congregation, and while the virus is still circulating in our community, please do our best to adhere to the following.

Please read all these instructions and retain them for future reference:

What to Expect

- Services will be all age, as there will be no junior church

Before Leaving Home

- Do not plan to attend church if:
 - You have been told to self-isolate
 - You have any of the recognised Covid-19 symptoms:
 - High temperature
 - New persistent cough
 - Loss of taste or smell
- Check that churches are allowed to worship by the government– use the church website or call if unsure
- Ensure you bring a mask, unless your health requires you not to wear one
- Bring a bottle of water with you if you will require a drink

Entering Church

- Put on your mask, unless your health requires you not to wear one
- Try to keep a 2-metre gap between you and people not in your household bubble, unless both you and they are comfortable with a closer distance.
- Enter through the main church door unless you need to use the easy access entrance on Meeting House Lane
- If entering through the hall give way to anyone in the vestry between the church and hall
- Use the hand sanitizer provided
- Ensure you register on entry to facilitate contact tracing if required

Please turn over

Minister:

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Secretary:

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When in Church

- Once registered move to your pew and try to keep a 2-metre gap from anyone else who is moving around the church
- Try not to touch any surfaces, except for the pew you will sit in
- Only sit on pews whose cushions are the right way up (alternate pews are open to ensure social distancing is preserved)
 - If you want to participate in congregational singing please sit on the lectern half of the church.
 - If you are uncomfortable with the idea of congregational singing please sit on the organ half of the church and ensure you communicate your preference to a steward.
 - If you are on your own please sit in the centre pew
 - If with a member of your family or household bubble sit in a pew on the left or right of the church
 - If you wish to sit with someone not in your household bubble please ensure they are comfortable with that before you sit
- In your pew will be a Bible and hymn book and an order of service, these are safe to handle, and are not touched from week to week
- Try to keep your mask on unless your health requires you not to wear a mask
 - You can remove your mask to drink, take Communion or give the Bible reading
 - You must wear your mask if you wish to participate in congregational singing because this will limit the spread of any aerosol droplets.
- Please do not move to a different pew once seated
- Please do not move around the church unless essential
 - If you do move, try to keep a 2-metre gap from anyone else who is moving around the church
- The toilet will be open but will require cleaning with anti-bacterial wipes after every use
 - If you need help with that please let one of the Elders know
- Tea and coffee will be served in the hall after the service
 - Try to keep a 2-meter gap from others unless they are okay with you being closer
 - Wear your mask, if you are able, when not drinking

When Leaving Church

- Please leave the hymn book and Bible in your pew.
- Take the order of service with the notices in.
- In order to safeguard our cleaners please take any rubbish you made with you
- When leaving please maintain social distancing
- Please do not block the exits after leaving

Please let me know if anything is unclear or you have any questions.

With very best wishes,

Peter Godbert (Secretary)