



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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Dear members of Zion,

I hope you and your family are well! We continue to face an unprecedented time, but in the midst of it we can say "thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Cor. 15:57)

It has been over three months since we have been able to gather for worship. The Board of Directors has approved a re-opening plan developed by a special Task Force comprised of Zion members. Our first gathering under these new guidelines listed below will be Sunday, June 28, for a 9:00 a.m. worship service. Saturday evening services will not be held until further notice.

#### **HYGIENE DETAILS**

Congregants who are not feeling well or who have underlying medical conditions are asked to stay home. Worship services will continue to be streamed, with worship folders, Pastor's sermon and News and Notes emailed and snail mailed. Use of facemasks is optional. Congregants are asked to bring their own facemasks. Pastoral staff, volunteers and communion servers will wear facemasks.

#### **INFECTION CONTROL MEASURES**

Staff will clean the facility before each service. Doors will be propped open and windows will be open to keep fresh air circulating. Doorknobs, chairs, pews, and other frequently touched areas will be sanitized as frequently as possible. Everyone will be welcomed at the entrance on South Second Street. Social distancing (six feet) will be maintained. After registering, congregants will be asked to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer (which will be available throughout the church). There should be no handshaking or hugs inside the building. Coffee and snacks will not be served.

#### **DETAILS IN CHURCH**

Ushers will direct congregants to seats marked for social distancing. Family members are urged to sit together. Hymnals, pew Bibles and registration books have been removed. The order of service including the words to hymns will be contained in the worship folder handed out when congregants enter. During the worship service, congregation responses will be kept small and singing softly is encouraged. Congregants will use the designated collection plate to collect offerings as they enter the sanctuary. Congregants will be seated in church from front to back and will exit from the back pews first. One-way traffic will avoid overcrowding. Congregants will be asked to exit through the Jefferson Street door.

#### **COMMUNION**

Congregants will be asked to pick up a pre-packaged communion kit when they enter. Communion will be taken as a group in place in pews during the worship service. Used cup and packaging will be discarded in a wastebasket. Congregants are encouraged to take their worship folder home.

#### **PRAY**

Pray for the leadership in our government and in our churches. Your pastors and the leadership covet your prayers for wisdom and direction. Continue to pray for those who are sick and on the frontlines of this health crisis. These guidelines for worship will be used for the first few weeks. They are subject to change in the future if there are concerns or changes in healthcare recommendations. We needed to start somewhere. Thank you for your patience and cooperation. Know Jesus and make Him known. We are praying for you and hope to see you soon!

*Pastor Neumann*

