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# JOLIET CORONAVIRUS PROTOCOLS

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**06/5/2020** To help limit the spread of coronavirus and to protect each other and our communities, the Joliet congregation will implement the following procedures as we worship together. As the virus situation progresses, these protocols will be reviewed, revised as needed and communicated.

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## BIBLE CLASSES

Sunday AM Bible classes for adults and children are temporarily on hold. Please join us in the online Wednesday Bible study on Romans at 7 PM, taught by Josh Collier. These are being held via Zoom.

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## TIME AND ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:30 AM Sunday Mornings. About 1 hour, to control length of exposure.

- If circumstances continue to improve, this will be moved back to 10 AM in July. Streams, website, and group pages will begin announcing this soon.
- The order of worship remains the same in many ways. Singing, however, will be more limited than before, as it has been identified by some studies as a means by which the virus can spread more easily. Songs will be limited to one at the beginning of service, and one toward the end, followed by final words, prayer and prompt dismissal.

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## GENERAL PRECAUTIONS

- Please stay home if you are high-risk for viral transmission, or if you have been sick or currently feel sick. If you become sick soon after meeting, it is critical you let us know, so that we can respond and adapt appropriately.
- Good handwashing greatly reduces the spread of all viruses. We encourage you to look into and follow proper handwashing methods. Our facilities of course do not allow for everyone to wash their hands at the same time, so at a minimum, please do so at home before coming to the building.
- Hand sanitizer can work well in conjunction with handwashing. Sanitizer will be available at the building. You may also bring your own. We recommend handwashing (at home) and using sanitizer (at building) before and after services, as a minimum.
- Limit touching such as hugging, or touching shared surfaces, or touching your face, all of which can aid the spread of the virus.
- Facemasks are required especially when singing and within six feet of others. Masks will be made available at the door if you would like one.

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## SANITATION

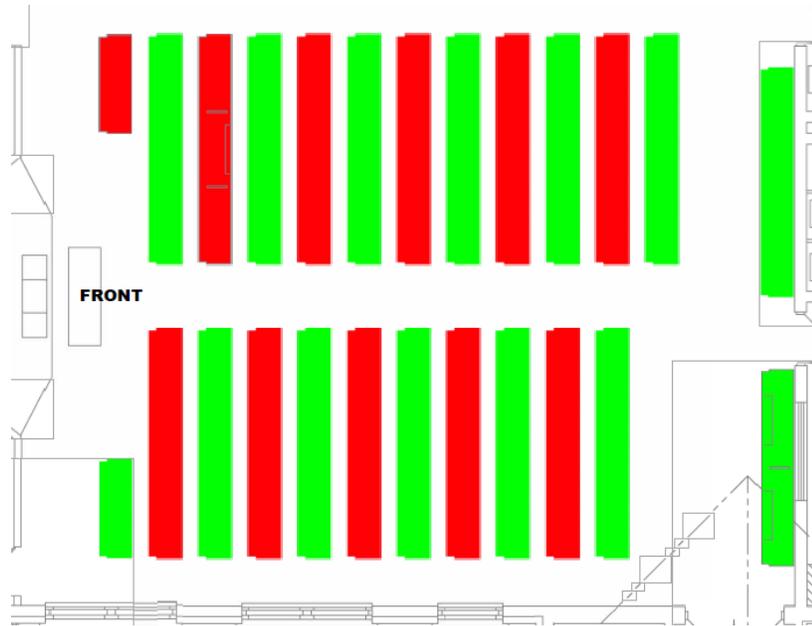
- The professional cleaning and sanitizing service will begin clean weekly. *Since we are restricting the downstairs classrooms from use, the downstairs classrooms are currently not being sanitized.*



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## CAPACITY AND SEATING

To maximize distance, we will use every other pew front-to-back, and alternate pews side-by-side. Families and those who have already been in close contact with each other will be seated within the same approximate areas.



- This arrangement will allow for around 50-60 members. This fits well within the capacity guidelines and realistic seating ability of our building.
- Please continue to sit in the same place from week to week, when possible.

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## BUILDING ENTRY

- An usher will assist with the outside door, and the glass doors will be propped open, so that each person is not touching and opening the doors.
- Please do not congregate at the back, but instead make your way to a pew to be seated.
- The downstairs classrooms are closed; please do not allow children to play downstairs.
- Visitors will be given a welcome card to fill out. This allows us to contact them if any one of us becomes sick soon after meeting.

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## BUILDING EXIT

- It will be encouraged that we are dismissed starting from the back at a rate that does not allow congregating in the aisles or the back area. Everyone is free to meet outdoors in the parking lot (while maintaining safe distances) after services.



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## SINGING

- Songs will be displayed via the projector. This will create less reliance on the song books. You can still use a songbook but consider using the same one week to week. *Currently, songbooks are not included in the sanitation program.*
- Song count will be limited to one song at the beginning of service and one at the end.
- For now, facemask usage will be required during singing.

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## LORD'S SUPPER AND CONTRIBUTION

- Emblems will be available near the entry, on a table, that each person can take as they come inside.
- The communion will use pre-packaged bread and fruit-of-the-vine cups. These have a peel-away lid for the bread, and a subsequent peel-away lid for the juice. The leftover plastic cup will be retained by each person for disposal at the end of the service.
- Individually wrapped gluten-free bread will also be available.
- Contribution plates will be brought to each row using the empty row in front of each pew. *(Cash still accepted, disposable gloves to be worn by counters. We have 1 volunteer to count; need 1 more.) Trash bins or bags will be passed at the same time in order to collect used communion cups.*

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## BATHROOM AND NURSERY

- Please plan ahead as much as possible for your bathroom and nursery needs. We would like to limit each bathroom to one person at a time.
- Two people (plus one child each) could still use the nursery and maintain six-foot distances if they are at opposite ends of the nursery. The downstairs rocking chair area will also be available. (There may also be an area in the coat room. Note there is a speaker on the wall downstairs, but not in the coat room; however you may still be able to hear from the coat room.)
- Toys will be removed from the nursery but feel free to bring your child's own toys for him/her to use; please take them back home with you.

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## NOTES ON RECORDING

- You will notice lights and a webcam up front and a new table arrangement. While these are inconveniently placed for those worshipping at the building, we trust you will understand that during these times especially, streaming our service is the closest some are able to get to a worship experience. Thank you for your patience.
- Please know that the audio equipment, while calibrated, is still sensitive to sound from the audience. Try to limit unnecessary noises, in order to make the service beneficial and enjoyable for those watching from home. *The audio will be muted during distribution of the Lord's Supper and contribution.*