

Sanctuary Return Plan 2021
Midway Christian Church
Tentative Date: April 11th, 2021

When you arrive for worship, you will encounter signage with reminders of our plan and masked greeters at the entrance who can answer any questions you may have.

If you are running a fever, ill, or have come into contact with someone who is, we ask that you please remain home and participate through the online video as a precaution.

Physical Distancing- Please practice physical distancing of at least 6 feet from others in the entrances and inside the building. **Please note, this means that you may not be able to sit in “your pew”.** Again, we are holding to the CDC guidelines.

1. Masks- Everyone attending worship (except for small children) is required to wear a mask at all times. Additional masks will be available for those who do not have one of their own. If you have a medical condition or any other reason that precludes you from wearing a mask, you are encouraged to participate in worship at home through the online video.
2. Entry/exit and traffic flow:
 - a. Please enter the church via the ramp located on the side of the Sanctuary building.
 - b. Please exit the sanctuary using the main front doors.

These traffic flow and seating pattern are implemented to avoid congestion and close contact in our aisles

3. Offering: Offering plates will be placed on a table just inside the sanctuary as way for people to share their offering. We will still offer Givelify as an online option for offering as well. People are also invited to mail in their gifts to the church or they can be dropped off at the church office during the week.
4. Children & Worship- There will be no Children’s Moment, no nursery/childcare, and no Children’s Worship and Wonder. Children should remain in the pews with their parents for the entire service. Families are welcome to bring materials to help engage their children during worship if needed, but please remember to take all materials with you when you leave.
5. Communion- Communion elements will not be served during the morning service. We will still have a time of remembrance in the service. People are invited to pick up communion

elements (bread and juice in one container) when they enter into the sanctuary. **Everyone must take their own trash with them when they leave.**

6. Worship music- Multiple studies and guidance show that congregational singing, even when masked, is considered a high-risk activity in congregational worship at this time. In light of that, we, like many other congregations, will not have congregational singing at this time. Teena will play hymns. For those who wish to read and reflect on the words during the instrumental hymns, lyrics will be made available electronically.
7. Online worship- We will continue with our online worship offered via Facebook Live or the church's YouTube channel.
8. Restrooms- Restrooms will be available.
9. Bulletins- The wonderful piece of living more into our Green Chalice mission is that we now have screens in the sanctuary which serve as a digital bulletin. A few printed bulletins will be available for those which request them.
10. Attendance- We will be co-operating with public health officials in contact tracing should anyone attending a service test positive for COVID-19 after attending. For this reason, we will be recording the names of those attending to assist with that process.
11. Service Length- Since risk increases with prolonged contact time in large groups, our worship service will be somewhat shorter than our pre-pandemic service to help mitigate that risk.

This is a working plan subject to change or modification as further public health guidance or circumstances arise.