

Redeemer Lutheran Church Re-opening guidelines

Our church council and Pastor are recommending the following approach to re-opening Redeemer Lutheran Church for worship which is consistent with government guidance and the rate of vaccinations within the community. The re-opening will be in three stages and at each stage Church Council and the Pastor will evaluate and adjust activities for worship based on changes in the pandemic within Saskatoon, government guidance and the vaccination pace within the Province. There will be one worship service at 10am Sundays and will be available both online and in person per the approach described below. Vaccination for the initial re-opening (stage 1) is not optional.

Stage 1 (initial re-opening): Purpose to work the re-opening bugs out in a safe manner.

First Opening date: **25 April 2021** (reflects when most 60 years and older congregants will be vaccinated and be approximately 2 to 3 weeks past their vaccination date)

Attendees at worship for Stage 1:

- Attendees must be vaccinated (at least one dose) and should be at least 2 weeks past the vaccination date (each vaccination is slightly different with respect to establishing protection after 1st dose)
- Attendees must register with the church office by Friday noon the Sunday before to ensure RLC remains within the limits set by the government.
- Greetings – no hugs or handshakes
- Attendees initial opening will be set at maximum of 30 people.
- Masks, per the Saskatchewan Government guidance, will be worn while indoors including while sitting in the pew.

Entering the church and church spaces

- Attendees will enter through the front door and proceed directly to their seats to minimize cleaning needs.
- Church bathrooms are limited to one person at a time.
- Attendees should stay in the church foyer and sanctuary.
- Elevators will have not more than one person at a time and have an usher managing the space.
- Pews will be designated as seating allowable or not (e.g. every second pew) (consider this similar to seating in a restaurant)

Worship Planning

- Communion, singing and sharing of the peace will not be a part of the first phase.
- Offering plates will be positioned at the entrance of the sanctuary.
- Special music will be managed at the front of the church (Instruments only)
- Ushers x 2 – greeting people replaced by guiding people to sanitizer and to the sanctuary.
- Services will include zoom or a pre-recorded service as an alternative to in person attendance.

Questions can be directed to the pastor or any member of council. Intent is to open in a safe manner that reflects the demographics of our church congregation and respects the Government's re-opening guidance.