

# **SALEM EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH OUTSIDE SERVICE INFORMATION**

From the Elders of Salem

Thursday, July 2, 2020

## **DATE**

Beginning on Sunday, July 5, Salem will begin having one combined outdoor service every Sunday for the foreseeable future.

## **TIME**

Each week, the service will be held at 9:00 am.

## **LOCATION**

Each week, the service will be held at the back of the parking lot, with seating mostly available on the grass and some on the macadam. There will be plenty of shade to sit in, though there will also be sun if you'd like to work on your tan.

## **REASONING**

There are several reasons we are going to be holding our services outside:

- 1) It allows us to gather together as one body.
- 2) It allows us to gather together without wearing masks.
- 3) The logistics of an outdoor service are much simpler than those of an indoor service.
- 4) COVID-19 does not appear to spread as easily outside.

## **LAWN CHAIRS**

Please bring your own lawn chair to sit in.

## **ARRIVAL PROCEDURE**

Please arrive by 8:50 to give yourself plenty of time to park and walk to a spot to sit down with your chair. We ask that you and those in your household sit at least 6 feet away from other people. We will aim to start promptly at 9:00.

## **LIVE STREAM**

We will still be live streaming the service on the church's Facebook page and the church website.

## **IF YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL**

If you are feeling sick or have symptoms like a cough or temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, please stay home, rest, recuperate, and watch the live stream.

## **MASKS**

Masks will *not* be required at our outdoor service, provided you stay appropriately distanced (6 feet apart) from those who are not part of your household.

## **DISTANCE**

Please do make every effort to stay appropriately distanced (6 feet apart) from those who are not part of your household. If you need to be closer to anyone, please put on your mask. Remember that there will be brothers and sisters in Christ among you who are physically vulnerable or are caring for physically vulnerable loved ones.

## **INSIDE OF THE CHURCH**

We ask that you not go inside the church. Though if you need to use the bathroom, please put your mask on, enter through fellowship hall, and wipe down any surfaces you use with the wipes provided in the bathroom.

## **BIBLES**

Please bring your own Bible with you, as there won't be any provided.

## **BULLETIN**

An electronic bulletin will be e-mailed to you prior to the service, which you are welcome to bring along and print out.

## **LYRIC SHEETS**

Lyric sheets will be available at the welcome table upon your arrival.

## **OFFERING**

We will have a box available that you can drop your offering in before or after the service.

## **CHILDCARE**

For children 4 years old and younger, there will be an outside nursery offered during the worship service. Masks are not required, with the understanding that volunteers will make every effort to keep the children 6 feet apart. The sliding board, bubbles and chalk will be available, as well as hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes. We may also set up a Bible-based kids' show or movie for the children to watch. Those children will be released to the nursery right before the sermon begins.

Children 5 years old and older (those who normally attend Children's Church) will receive an activity packet to enjoy while they sit with their parents during the worship service. We were originally planning on having Children's Church but because of the difficulty of keeping an appropriate physical distance and a shortage of volunteers, we will not be starting that yet.

Beth Lehman, our Director of Children's Ministry, will be reaching out to parents each week to see if they are planning on coming so she can make appropriate accommodations. Beth will also remain in communication with each Salem family as our Children's Ministry transitions back to a full program.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

There will be no Sunday School (for adult or children) at this time.

## **IN CASE OF RAIN**

In the event of rain, we will move to an indoor service at 9 am in fellowship hall where masks will be required for the entirety of the service, in keeping with the mandate of the governor. (See Romans 13 and 1 Peter 2:17 for the Lord's call for His people to submit to and honor the governing authorities).

Any decision to move inside will be made by the Saturday evening before at 6 pm and e-mailed out. For those who don't have an e-mail address, it will also be posted on the church's Facebook page, website, and answering machine (call 717-336-7378). If you don't hear anything, plan on bringing your lawn chair and joining us outside.

If we are inside, we will definitely still be running the live stream of the service. Unfortunately, we will not be offering any childcare if we are inside so parents may choose to keep their child with them during the service or tune into the live stream at home.

## **QUESTIONS FOR ELDERS**

If you have questions, comments, or concerns for the Elders, please do not hesitate to reach out.