

Trinity Comprehensive Plan

Outdoor Worship

COVID 19 Control, Mitigation & Recovery Plan

Version 1 (posted: 6/23/2020)

The following plan has been created by the Trinity Lutheran Church Safe Return to Worship Taskforce for use by the Trinity Lutheran congregation's outdoor worship services. We anticipate this plan will change and need updating, therefore each iteration is marked with by version. This is version 1 (June 23, 2020)

About COVID-19

- Infection with COVID-19 can cause illness ranging from mild to severe and, in some cases, can be fatal.
- Symptoms typically include fever, dry cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle ache, headache, diarrhea, rash on skin, discoloration of fingers or toes, or new loss of taste or smell.
- According to the CDC, symptoms of COVID-19 may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 days after exposure. On average it takes 5 to 6 days for symptoms to appear in someone who is infected.
- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person, including:
 1. Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 to 10 feet).
 2. Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person talks, coughs, sneezes, or sings. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
 3. In general, the more closely a person interacts with others and the longer that interaction, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread.
 4. It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or eyes, though this is not thought to be the primary way the virus spreads.
 5. COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.

General COVID Control and Mitigation Requirements

- ***Persons with any sign of illness must stay home. Anyone with another member of their household who has been diagnosed or has symptoms of COVID-19 must stay home.*** Please take your temperature before coming. Any person with a temperature above 100.4° should stay home. (Trinity will have a “no-touch instant-read” thermometer for use of those who haven't checked at home.)
- All groups larger than 5 people shall designate a COVID supervisor for their group. It shall be the responsibility of the COVID supervisor to ensure that all persons in their gathering are complying with these guidelines and the Trinity Lutheran Meeting checklist.
- The COVID supervisor shall either fill out the Trinity Lutheran Worship Checklist for each worship service, or may designate another person to fill out the Trinity Lutheran Meeting Checklist.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) plan

- All persons are responsible to bring their own PPE.
- Face coverings (cloth or purchased masks) that cover both the nose and mouth are required to be worn at all times. Anyone who does not have a mask will be given one. Anyone who is unwilling to wear a mask will not be allowed to participate or remain.
- Each group shall have extra facial coverings available as needed.
- Gloves of nitrile or latex are encouraged but not required.
- Do not share or misplace face coverings
- Ensure that face coverings are clean and/or in good working order

Physical Distancing

- All persons must maintain a six foot clearance from other persons. Persons of the same family household may sit/stand next to each other.
- The outdoor worship space shall be set up and disinfected at least one half-hour prior to the beginning of worship, insuring the maintaining of six foot social distancing.
- Social distancing posters shall be posted in all areas where groups will be gathering.
- The COVID Supervisor shall be responsible to maintain social distancing and inform the group of the social distancing informational posters.
- All worship should be limited to one hour or less.

Maintaining Proper Hygiene and sanitation

- We will post, in areas visible to all persons, required hygienic practices, including...
 - Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds;
 - Do not to touch your face with unwashed hands or while wearing gloves;
 - Use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol;
 - Cover your mouth and nose with your elbow when coughing or sneezing
 - Other hygienic recommendations by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- There will be no congregational singing or unison speaking done, and all cantors and soloists will always sing wearing a mask.
- There will be no direct physical contact between or among worship staff, worshippers, or visitors.
- Disinfectants will be used on furnishings and equipment such as chairs, tables, keyboards, and doorknobs used before and after worship. Disinfectants will be readily replenished.
- Hands-free handwashing stations, dispensers with alcohol-based hand sanitizers with greater than 60 % ethanol or 70% isopropyl alcohol, tissues, and waste receptacles will be abundantly available throughout the outdoor courtyard. Everyone is encouraged to wash their hands often, especially before and after using the restroom, coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose.
- The outdoor worship space, arranged with proper physical distance, will be set up and disinfected before worshippers arrive.
- Printed worship materials will be distributed on chairs using appropriate sanitary precautions before worshippers arrive.
- A closed receptacle will be available for presenting offerings before or after worship. Offering plates will not be passed.
- No one will be allowed to enter or pass through any part of the church building (with the exception of restroom use.)
- Worship participants will park in the lot between Wheeler and Garfield Streets—across from the main worship space.
- Use of restrooms will be greatly curtailed. The only restrooms that will be available are those in the narthex (main church entry) accessed through the doors nearest the courtyard. Individuals waiting to use the restroom will be required to maintain at least 6 feet of distance from others. The doors leading to the restrooms will remain locked and an attendant will allow only one person at a time to occupy a restroom, and will sanitize the restroom after each use.
- Holy Communion will not be a part of these worship services. Nor will there be any refreshments served.

Covid-19 Symptom Monitoring

- Our greatest concern is the health and safety of our entire community. As information regarding the COVID-19 outbreak and regional response measures continues to evolve, we will strive to provide the most current, consistent, and transparent communications regarding this situation and its impact on our congregation and community. This plan was created to address both the prevention of infection and the proper response should it occur

- The church staff shall notify all potential worshippers through printed and mailed materials (e.g. The Messenger), email, Trinity’s website and Facebook page, and other appropriate mediums that, prior to attending, individuals must assess their risk and prescreen their health:
 - Persons over the age of 65, who are severely obese, or who have severe underlying medical conditions like heart or lung disease, diabetes, or who are immunocompromised should consider continuing to worship by electronic means. Worship services will be available online through our website, our Facebook page, or on YouTube. Outdoor worship services will be “livestreamed” (in real time) and will be recorded and available for use later in the day.
 - Persons with any sign of illness must stay home
 - Persons are encouraged to take their temperature before leaving home. Anyone with a temperature above 100.4° must stay home.
 - Trinity will have a “no-touch instant-read” thermometer in use for those who have not checked their temperature at home.
 - Anyone with another member of their household who has been diagnosed or has symptoms of COVID-19 must stay home.
 - Anyone who has knowingly been in close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 must self-quarantine for 2 weeks and must be symptom free prior to attending worship at Trinity Lutheran.

Incident reporting (should it become necessary)

- A log of the name and phone number of everyone in attendance shall be recorded, and the attendance record kept for four weeks for the purpose of “contact tracing” in the event that a person present tests positive for the COVID-19 virus.
- Persons experiencing symptoms or testing COVID-19 positive within 2 weeks of worshipping at Trinity Lutheran are asked to immediately notify Trinity Lutheran’s COVID Supervisor, Cheryl Mays Comen or one of the pastors. The COVID Supervisor shall immediately notify Pastor Gaustad and/or Pastor Blakney, and one of the pastors or the COVID-19 Supervisor shall immediately notify Tacoma Pierce County Health Department, making pertinent attendance information available. (Health Department On-call duty officer: 253-798-6500)

Location disinfection procedures

- Before and after outdoor worship all equipment, furnishings and structures used shall be cleaned and disinfected. This includes chairs, microphones, speakers, keyboard, podium, Plexiglas screens, deck floors and railing, etc..

Conducting necessary COVID-19 safety training

- All church staff and volunteer worship leaders shall receive training concerning COVID-19 safety. This training shall include, but is not limited to all the items on the Trinity Lutheran worship checklist (Attachment 1)

What are our exposure response procedures?

- The COVID-19 Supervisor (Cheryl Mays Comen) is responsible for ensuring all guidelines from the Trinity Lutheran Worship checklist are followed.
- The COVID Supervisor shall maintain a list of all those who attended worship as well as how to contact them if needed.
- In the event of a known exposure, the COVID-19 Supervisor shall immediately notify the Pastors as well as Tacoma Pierce County Health Dept.

What is our post-exposure incident project-wide recovery plan?

- In the event of an exposure, all of those who were present where the virus was present shall be notified of their potential exposure. This will be done by or under the supervision of the COVID-19 Supervisor.

- Upon experiencing an exposure, the building will be shut down for all groups until further notice.

A copy of this plan must be available at the location for inspection by state and local authorities.

Trinity Lutheran Outdoor Worship Checklist

Please complete this checklist every time you meet. Leave it on this clipboard with the registry of names of those who attended the worship. Thank you.

Date: _____ Location: _____

✓	Action
	Who is today's designated COVID- 19 Supervisor?
	Is there a copy of "Trinity Lutheran Comprehensive COVID 19 Control, Mitigation & Recovery Plan"? <i>A copy of this plan must be available for inspection by state and local authorities.</i>
	Are necessary COVID-19 safety and information posters visibly posted throughout?
	Have we limited access to our worship space, leaving doors for passage through the building locked?
	Is everyone wearing a facemask before, during and after worship?
	Is everyone refraining from physical contact?
	No choirs. If there is singing, people must do so with their masks on and at least 6 feet apart. Those in the same family may sing closer.
	Is there a restroom attendant who is limiting access to the restroom to not more than one person at a time? Are those waiting maintaining six feet of distance?
	Is there soap and running water available in at least two locations outdoors to everyone?
	Is there hand sanitizer available in at least two locations of the gathering space?
	Are all parties sitting at least 6 feet apart? (Those in the same family may sit closer.)
	Are tissues and trash cans available in at least two locations of the gathering space?
	Was everyone informed prior to arriving that they must prescreen their health? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any individual with a temperature of 100.4 or higher must stay home • Anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 or who has symptoms must stay home • Anyone with a household member with COVID-19 or who has symptoms must stay home
	Was all furniture and equipment cleaned and disinfected before the worship?
	Was all furniture and equipment cleaned and disinfected after the worship?
	Is there a log of the names of everyone who attended? (This log must be maintained for at least four weeks.)

