

# Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church

COVID Preparedness Plan – Effective March 6, 2021

(for us by: Shepherd of the Lake COVID Preparedness Team, Staff and Council)

## In-Person WORSHIP

Shepherd of the Lake is committed to providing a safe and healthy facility for our staff, members, visitors, guests, etc.. This plan was developed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure we implement strategies and procedures to preserve public health. It is expected that the entire church will have a role in implementing this plan to mitigate transmission of COVID-19 within our facility and our community.

This plan has been developed with guidance and recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Minnesota Department of Health, and the ELCA and Minneapolis Area Synod.

The COVID-19 situation will continue to evolve and Shepherd of the Lake will remain adaptable and nimble during this dynamic environment.

Social distancing, wearing of masks or other appropriate PPE, hand-washing and disinfection of surfaces are key factors to reducing the transmission of the COVID-19 virus.

### I. **Cleaning and Disinfecting Protocols (before, during and after worship services) for In-Person Worship**

- a. Water Fountains will be turned off and unavailable
- b. Signs are posted at Elevators asking people to stay on the Upper Path and not use unless necessary
- c. Five **Hand Sanitizing Stations** have been set-up through-out the building
- d. Air Flow in the Building has been Maximized, and Air Recirculation has been Eliminated
- e. A Sanitation Schedule and Checklist (internally) has been created
- f. High-Touch Items (doorknobs, railings, handles, etc.) will be Routinely Cleaned and Disinfected prior to all services (in between services if two or more run in a row)
- g. Signage reminding people that “Masks are Required” and “Handwashing is Necessary” are posted on Doors and Through-out the Building (masks are available for those that don’t have one)
- h. All Staff, Members, Guests, Visitors, etc. should conduct a self-check of their body temperature the day they plan to attend (they are expected to stay home if sick)
- i. All Staff, Members, Guests, Visitors, etc. must maintain a distance of at least 6 ft. from people not in the same household at all times

### II. **Guidelines for Determining when Worship will be In-Person**

Throughout the duration of this pandemic, until full herd immunity is reached or our 14-day average rate per 10,000 is near zero, we will continue to recommend:

- Wearing masks, practicing good hand hygiene, maintaining physical distance of 6 feet, and staying home when sick.
- If numbers are decreasing, we will allow a three-week period to establish trends before moving towards a less restrictive phase.

- All of our recommendations and movement between phases will be in compliance with executive orders.

<b>The 14-day average rate per 10,000</b>	<b>Activities and Modifications</b>
Less than 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-person worship, at limited capacity and with guidelines (appropriate physical distancing, use of masks, etc.)</li> </ul>
20-29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-person worship, at limited capacity and with guidelines (appropriate physical distancing, use of masks, etc.)</li> </ul>
30-49	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online only worship</li> </ul>
50+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online only worship</li> </ul>

*We are basing our guidelines on the weekly data collected for Minnesota Schools found at . . .*

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/stats/wschooll.pdf>