

MINISTER'S GUIDANCE NOTES FOR WORSHIPPERS IN THE SANCTUARY

The Elders' Meeting has decided to allow public worship to resume and continue in the Sanctuary of St John's United Reformed Church from Sunday 13 September 2020. Please note that public worship is not classed as a 'social gathering' and is therefore exempt from the recently announced ban on gatherings of more than six people. This exemption is allowed so long as the Government Guidelines for mitigating the risk of Covid-19 transmission are complied with. If you choose to gather with others in our building, please comply with the guidance set out below:

1. Only those who are confident that coming to worship in our building would not place their health at undue risk should gather. We will continue to provide live Zoom and recorded access to worship, or a printed copy of the URC Sunday Service, for those who prefer to continue worshipping from home
2. The sanctuary will be professionally cleaned on Friday, and no other group will be in the space between then and Sunday morning.
3. If, on the day of worship, you feel unwell or show any symptoms associated with Covid-19, DO NOT come to worship
4. Please arrive between 10:45 and 11:00AM and NOT any earlier.
5. Please remember to bring with you a face-covering; and, if you wish, also a bottle of water and a Bible. Any cash or cheque offerings are to be deposited in a box near the entrance
6. Please enter the sanctuary from the main entrance in Somerset Road
7. Please wear a face-covering at all times when you are in the sanctuary
8. Unless you are wearing sterile gloves, you are required to use the gel dispenser on your hands in the lobby when you enter the building, and also when you depart
9. Your attendance will be noted in a register with your contact telephone number. New visitors to worship will be required to supply a name and contact number. The register will be kept for 21 days in case NHS Track and Trace needs it; after which it will be destroyed.
10. Proceed to a vacant seat and remember to maintain a 2-metre distance from others at all times. If you do not wish the back of your head to be visible in the video, inform the steward and you will be shown to a seat out-of-shot
11. The seating has been rearranged to meet the Government's Covid-19 social distancing requirements – only sit in the designated spaces. Households and family bubbles may sit together; all other worshippers will be spaced apart
12. No congregational singing is permitted during worship; quiet humming is allowed
13. The kitchen will be closed. No refreshments will be served after worship
14. The accessible toilet off the sanctuary only will be available – after use, the user MUST wash hands thoroughly and sanitise all touch points within the toilet and the external handle
15. Because of the need not to prolong the time together in an enclosed space, there will be a limited period of distanced fellowship at the end of worship. When you hear the organ voluntary being played, please begin to make your way to the exit, and once outside the building you may continue your conversation
16. If you or someone in your group becomes unwell while in the church or is subsequently found to have Covid-19, you MUST IMMEDIATELY notify the Church Secretary – Tony Alderman on 020 8441 4807, email: aldermantony@aol.com All other worship attenders will be informed of the situation and of any precautions that need to be taken. St John's sanctuary will then be closed for 72 hours, for deep cleaning