



Dear Smyrna Family,

WE'RE COMING BACK TO THE BUILDING!

It has been many weeks since I've been able to say "I look forward to seeing you at church this Sunday." On March 24th, we will go from being the church scattered to the church gathered! And while the situation and style will be a bit altered from "normal," we look forward to gathering to worship on May 24th. This will look, feel, and BE different than anything any of us have experienced. I ask for you to continue to extend grace, prayers, and encouragement to our church leaders as we navigate this together.

Some of you are not yet ready to re-enter the building. We FULLY understand that. You will not receive "bonus points" for attendance! Our service will still be livestreamed on Facebook, uploaded later to YouTube, and broadcast through our FM transmitter in the parking lot. There are many ways you can participate in worship if you are still uncomfortable with coming inside the building.

Following are some general guidelines and a few specific requests about coming back together this Sunday (and following through the end of June). While we cannot think of EVERY single situation, please use these general guiding principals as you make your way into the building (if you do) on Sunday.

General Ideas

- Put others before ourselves.
 - If you are showing symptoms (cough, aches, fever of 100.4 or higher), have been sick, are caring for someone who has compromised immunity, have compromised immunity yourself, or are not comfortable: **REMAIN OUTSIDE!**
 - Watch on Facebook or listen in your car in the parking lot, but please help us be part of the solution to the spread of this virus.
- Fellowship without physical contact.
 - Handshakes, hugs, and fist bumps are out but waving is great.
 - It will be hard to see your smile under your mask (which we strongly encourage everyone over age 12 to wear and will provide if necessary), but keep smiling!
- Avoid using high contact areas
 - Limit water fountain and restroom use to emergency use only, with only one person (and assistance if required) in the restroom at a time. If you feel that you will need to use those facilities from your arrival, through a 45-minute service, and your exit, you may want to consider waiting to join us in person.
 - Necessary doors will be propped open. Also, avoid touching every pew on your way to your seat.

Entering the Building

- Plan to arrive so that you can follow the check-in process prior to service beginning at 11:00.
- Park in designated spots only and avoid physical contact with others as you approach the building.
- Enter the building through the RAMP ENTRANCE ONLY.
 - Bring only what you need for worship. Consider leaving all extras in the vehicle.
 - Please approach the ramp and stay separated from those also entering (marks will be provided).
 - All those ages 12 and older will be asked to wear a mask while inside. A limited number of disposable masks will be available. We'll also have gloves available as well as hand sanitizer.
- After you enter the sanctuary you will be ushered to a designated seating area (yes, you should sit with ONLY those who came with you; yes, it may be a different location than usual; YES, you will be ok!)
 - Should the sanctuary reach our capacity, overflow space will be in the Fellowship Hall.

MORE INFORMATION ON THE BACK OF THE PAGE



Worshiping in the Building

- JESUS IS NOT DISTANT FROM US! We are here to have an encounter with the God of the Bible. Sing, pray, listen, worship!
- Hymnals and Bibles are removed, and bulletins will not be handed out. Words to songs, sermon notes, & announcements will be on the website and the screen.

Exiting the Building

- Those attending Drive-In will be released from their spaces first by parking attendants.
- Anyone gathered in the Fellowship Hall, they will be released after that to exit by the ramp door (please wait for instructions).
- Those in the sanctuary will be released starting with the back and coming to the front still using only the ramp door (please wait for instructions).
- For anyone who comes prepared to give, the offering plates will be available to receive your offering as you exit the sanctuary. The bucket will still be available for drive-in participants.

As you feel comfortable doing, I look forward to worshiping WITH you this Sunday, May 24. If you are not yet ready, we pray you will join us on Facebook Live or in our drive-in service. I thank you for continuing to WALK with Jesus (even while we are separated) and WORK for Jesus (even when we cannot gather). We can again WORSHIP Jesus as a collected group of Saints!

We have been, we are now, and until Jesus comes we will be Smyrna Baptist Church

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all,

Pastor Andrew