

Sprowston Methodist Church

Wroxham Road, Sprowston, Norwich, NR7 8AD

an Evangelical Alliance Member Church

Registered Charity Number: 1144417



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25th.August 2020

Dear friends,

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that the Church will be open for worship from September 6th at 10.30a.m. The service will be led by the Reverend Andy Burrows our new Minister and Circuit Superintendent.

Your safety and the safety of your fellow worshippers has been paramount in our preparations. The Church's Risk Assessment has been approved by the Circuit's Health and Safety team and the building and grounds inspected.

The safety precautions that we have put in place are following Government and Methodist requirements.

The following details are what you need to know when coming to worship.

Please wear a face covering. This is **MANDATORY** and must be worn at all times.

You will be asked to wait outside the building in an orderly queue at 2-metre intervals (you can be supported by other people in your 'bubble'.) There will be clear floor markings to help you wait safely.

Please ensure that all members of your bubble arrive at the same time as seats CANNOT be reserved in the worship area.

Should it be raining when you arrive, you are advised to remain in your car until a steward indicates that you may enter. Those who have arrived on foot will be admitted first.

All entrance doors will be left open to avoid handles being touched and contaminated.

A one-way system: throughout the building, is in place to avoid any face to face contact.

You will be welcomed by a Steward wearing a face visor.

A hand sanitising station has been sited by the front doors and everyone must sanitise their hands.

Before entering the worship area your name will be recorded on a Track and Trace Register. This register will be destroyed after 21 days. Your temperature will also be taken remotely and recorded, and should your temperature be too high you will be asked to return home and seek medical advice.

If you have brought your offering you will need to leave it in the clearly marked box at the door to the worship area before being seated.

There is a '**STOP. PLEASE WAIT HERE**' sign at the entrance, so please do not enter. A steward will lead you to a seat. Unfortunately, this means you will not be able to choose where you sit. The seats have been spaced according to the guidelines and there will be no chairs available in the vestibule.

The seats will be filled from the front ensuring that there is no crossing over. If you are in a 'bubble' the steward will move the seats together if this would be your preference.

The windows will be open to allow ventilation. Please DO NOT touch the window latches. We suggest you bring layers of clothing allowing for hot and cold weather to make your time in the church comfortable.

Please bring your own bible as there will be no church bibles available and we suggest you bring a bottle of water as the kitchen is closed and out of bounds.

If during the service you wish to leave or use the toilet facilities, please inform a steward by raising your hand. They will escort you out of the worship area. The toilets have a one in, one out policy and all touch points will be cleaned between each use.

If the worship area is full then you will be invited to sit in the hall where we will have an audio/visual feed from the church. You will be escorted to your chair.

Those leading the service will stand behind a Perspex screen positioned on the pulpit and lectern.

At the end of the service please remain in your seat, you will be invited by a steward to leave one row at a time, from the front through the front exit and simultaneously from the back through the main entrance. Please leave the building in an orderly fashion and keep the exits clear. Sadly, there will be no opportunity for you to remain in the building for conversations.

Please be respectful of each person's social distancing at all times and remember that handshakes and hugs are to be saved for safer and better times ahead.

Finally, if somebody should be taken ill during the service, Covid must be presumed. The person will remain in their seat and a blessing given to the congregation. Instructions to get tested will be given and the building will be safely cleared of all but essential persons.

If you are showing any Covid symptoms; before coming to church, we ask you to remain at home.

Some of these measures may appear to be strict but we would respectfully ask that you be compliant and support the Church leadership team as they endeavour to fulfil all the many Risk Assessment requirements. These measures are for your safety and the safety of others.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the 6th. Please do not put yourself at risk should you feel unsure about attending.

Yours in Christ
Martin Horth
Senior Steward.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good.

His love endures forever.

(Psalm 136:1)