

## **WORSHIP AT EMMANUEL UCC AS COVID-19 HEALTH ORDERS EXPIRE - JUNE 2021**

*Without question, our primary purpose in gathering is to offer our praise and worship to our great and glorious God. God does not care HOW we worship; God only cares that we DO worship. While that is best done in community in the sanctuary, one can be part of the worshiping community in other ways.*

*Therefore and most importantly, dear friends, please make your own decision as to whether you feel it is best for you to be in the sanctuary, in the parking lot, or viewing online as we return. We strive to provide the best worship experience for every person, but we know we cannot be all things to all people.*

*These pages will give you a synopsis of the plans Council has put in place.*

### **WORSHIP VIA LIVESTREAM** ([www.facebook.com/euccvalleycity](http://www.facebook.com/euccvalleycity))

The ability to livestream services from our sanctuary is now in place. We will continue to stream to our Facebook page. You do not need a Facebook account to access this page.

### **WORSHIP IN THE PARKING LOT**

We know there are some that will still be concerned about returning to the sanctuary. For the balance of the summer, we will continue to offer our 107.7 FM transmission to your car radio. We anticipate discontinuing the FM option after our outdoor Labor Day worship service so that we can worship together as one community. If you watch the Facebook stream while in the parking lot, realize that there is often a 10-20 second delay between the live FM on your car radio and the streamed video.

### **WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY**

- While not required, face masks are still recommended, especially for those who are still unvaccinated. If in doubt, err on the side of love for your neighbor.
- While we will return to congregational singing, we would suggest that you wear a mask while singing – or consider the social distancing section in the next bullet point.
- For those who are somewhat hesitant, we have marked off some pews that allow for social distancing. Please respect the ropes and signs, but most importantly respect those who still desire these spaces for personal comfort.
- All hymnals, bibles, envelopes, and other loose papers have been removed from the pews for the near future. Common items such as tissue boxes are no longer in each pew.
- The order of worship will be similar to what we have experienced with Pastor Brian.
- Everything you need to participate in worship will be projected on the wall behind the pulpit, so there will be no printed bulletins. A few announcement sheets will be printed.
- We will not be passing common items such as offering plates, attendance pads, and communion trays.

- We are not asking anyone if they have been vaccinated. Whether or not you have chosen to be vaccinated, please be respectful of each other. And, of course, if you do not feel well on Sunday morning, take that opportunity to worship via the Facebook livestream or from your car via the FM radio.
- Coffee hour after worship will be in Fellowship Hall. You are welcome to take your coffee and sit in the pavilion if so inclined.
- We anticipate that our choir will resume in September.

## **WELCOMING TABLE**

As you approach the narthex, you will encounter a Welcoming Table similar to the picture on the right. The same items will be near the front doors of the sanctuary. On the welcoming table, you will find:

- A supply of disposable masks;
- Individual travel-size packs of tissues for your convenience;
- Individual bottles of water if you do not bring one, as the drinking fountain has been temporarily disconnected;
- A pump bottle of hand sanitizer;
- A basket that will receive your offerings and blank offering envelopes for your privacy;
- On a communion Sunday, individual packs of communion elements.



## **COMMUNION**

- You will have picked up your individually packaged communion elements as you come into the building.
- Make sure you look at the packaging so that you can unwrap the wafer only prior to taking off the lid of the grape juice.
- Upon taking both elements, you may place the package in your pew rack and, if you would, carry it to a waste basket after the service.

## **AT THE END OF WORSHIP**

- Please take water bottles, tissue packs, and anything else with you at the end of worship. We will not be reusing any of these items.

Yes, friends, worship may seem different at the beginning. In any form and in its many forms, may our worship be a blessing to you!