

Public Worship Resumes May 31.

After two months of worshipping in our homes, we are opening public worship services at King of Kings Lutheran church. We want to start by acknowledging that for some this is something you are ready to do, but for others you may still want to wait. Wherever you fit in these two positions, we are fully aware and respect that the choice is up to individuals and families.

Public Worship will resume on Sunday, May 31st at 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM.

For those attending the 9:30 service, you will have the opportunity to attend the groundbreaking ceremony immediately following this service.

Many considerations were discussed in making this decision. First off, we believe our sanctuary can safely accommodate 75-100 people depending on the size of family groups who want to sit together and still maintain the recommended six-foot social distance. In addition, another 35 people can meet in the Fellowship Center where we can live stream the worship service on the TV monitor. The chairs we use will be clearly marked and an usher will be present to give directions on where to sit.

May 31st will also be kicking off our Summer Schedule which consists of two worship services (8:00 AM and 9:30 AM). Wednesday evening Worship/Bible Study will also be offered at 7:00 PM. Therefore, each week you will have three options to worship in our church building. We will also continue to live stream the 9:30 AM Sunday and Wednesday evening services on YouTube and Facebook Live.

We urge all who are considered “high risk” due to age or medical issues to remain at home. This is especially true for members over the age of sixty-five. We, the Pastors and Board of Elders, respectfully ask you to wait a little longer to attend worship in order to see what happens with the lifting of some social gathering restrictions. We also ask that if you have any of the common symptoms such as fever or persistent cough (even if you think it is just allergies), to not attend worship services. As just stated, we will continue to live stream and post services on Facebook Live and YouTube.

Although certainly not required, it would be helpful to those setting up the sanctuary and Fellowship Center if you would contact the church office (office@kingofkingscr.org) by email or phone (319-393-2438) before 4:00 PM Friday if you intend to attend Sunday worship at King of Kings. Please also share how many will be attending with you and which service you will be attending.

If possible, please provide your own facemask (and gloves if you like) and wear it/them during your stay, especially when entering and exiting the building. If you need a facemask, let us know and we will provide one for you. You are free to take your facemask off once seated. However, if you plan on singing, we ask that you put the facemask back on. We have read reports from medical experts on both sides of the benefits of wearing a face mask during singing. We are choosing to err on the side of caution.

When you arrive, please park away from other cars if possible. As you exit your vehicle, please maintain “physical distancing” (six feet) between family groups and use the chalk marks on the sidewalk as you come to the door. The three doors on the left will be propped open if the weather is nice and greeters will open the electronic door on the right. We also ask you to **refrain from shaking** hands or other bodily contact with people other than your own family members.

When you enter the building, please use the hand sanitizer provided or use your own if you have it. We will have individuals doing frequent cleaning and sanitization, especially of common areas. You will be directed into the Sanctuary through the main entrance and will leave through a side door.

No offering plate will be passed, instead offering plates will be placed at the side doors. One will be available when you enter if you want to drop off your envelope before you enter Worship.

Hymnals, pencils, prayer/attendance cards and coloring bags for children will not be available. We are removing them to facilitate easier cleaning and inhibit the spreading of germs. As already noted, you may remove your mask during worship as long as you maintain proper social distancing. (Families with children, feel free to bring crayons and a coloring book from home.)

We will not be offering the Lord's Supper the first Sunday in June. We will resume communion on Sunday, June 21st. We will then return to our regular practice of offering the Lord's Supper on the first and third Sunday of the month as is our practice.

Once Worship is concluded, we ask that as you prepare to exit the church please replace your face mask if you have removed it for Worship. You will be ushered out the side doors of the Sanctuary. After leaving the Sanctuary you are welcome to leave the building from any door. We ask you not to congregate in the Fellowship Center including the area around the mailboxes.

We encourage you to visit with your brothers and sisters after Worship but with proper discretion and social distancing. We want to show Christ's Love to others by not putting them at risk.

Restrooms will be open but we encourage you to use the restroom at home prior to coming to worship. As always, please wash your hands! Additional disinfectant wipes will be provided in the restrooms and you are asked to wipe down any handles or surfaces that have been touched. We ask that you limit the restroom use to one person/family at a time. Children must be accompanied by an adult when using the restroom. Additional trash cans will be placed outside each restroom. There will also be additional cleaning/sanitization of all common areas during/between services.

Procedures are subject to change as needed for the safety of everyone.

God bless you all. We am very much looking forward to being together again as the people of God here at King of Kings! We also look forward to seeing the individuals and families who chose to wait longer and worship online for a while longer before coming back. Hopefully no one feels any pressure one way or the other as to when they elect to return. We recognize this is a deeply personal decision and we respect whatever you decide.

**Yours in Christ,
Pastors Halvorson and Balvanz**