

# Returning to church and staying safe during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Martin Luther Church is planning to reopen for in-person worship after reviewing guidance from the Eastern Synod, Toronto Public Health, Ontario Ministry of Health and our insurance. We keep your input and safety in mind as we implement new policies and procedures during COVID. We have prepared the church building and scheduled professional cleaning but we need your help. Please volunteer during in-person worship or from home. If you will not/cannot attend in person, we aim to continue offering opportunities to stay connected and spiritual through mailings, calls and online resources.

As you continue to take hygienic precautions and self-monitor your physical wellness (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-self-assessment>), here are some guidelines for safely returning to church worship services.



## FILL OUT A WAIVER

- Fill out the enclosed waiver or download online and bring it to your first service at MLC.
- Or fill out a waiver on your first visit back to church.



## COVID SELF-ASSESSMENT

- Use the self-assessment tool included in this mailing before every visit to the church.
- Stay at home if you are unwell or are at greater risk of serious illness.



## CHURCH VISITS

- Only come to church for worship (register with Eventbrite or phone office) and at scheduled times.
- All scheduled times are subject to change.
- Coffee and social time suspended.



## ARRIVE EARLY

- You will be screened at the front entrance and ushered to your seat. Entry is not permitted at other doors.



## DISINFECT YOUR HANDS

- Please take time to disinfect your hands upon entering the church.



## WEAR A MASK

- Always wear a clean face-covering inside the church.



## MAINTAIN YOUR DISTANCE

- Maintain physical distance from other people not in your social circle.



## KEEP YOUR CHILDREN WITH YOU

- An activity kit will be provided.



## REFRAIN FROM SINGING

- Enjoy the organ music.



## POSITIVE COVID RESULTS

- Contact Public Health and the church office if you test positive for COVID-19 within 14 days of coming to church.
- Church Office will contact you in case someone at church tested positive.



## CONTINUE TO GIVE

- Continue to support our mission at this time.
- Offering plate will be at the exit of the church.
- Support us via our website, e-transfer or PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance).

Please contact (416) 567-2487 with any questions, sign up for our e-mail list for updates and a Sunday devotion, and tune into AM 530 Sundays at 9:30am. Be sure to follow the updates and guidelines from relevant authorities as well, such as the city of Toronto website: <https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/> Let the ministry team, office or your Corona Care caller know how you're feeling.



Martin Luther  
Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Church

# 4-week Worship Schedule:

**Sunday, Sept. 13, 2020**

11:00 am  
English Service

**Sunday, Sept. 20, 2020**

11:00 am  
German Service

**Sunday, Sept. 27, 2020**

11:00 am  
Joint English/German  
Service

**Sunday, Oct. 4, 2020**

11:00 am  
German Thanksgiving  
Service

## A Prayer for a Time of Preparation:

Eternal God, we give you thanks for your loving presence with us throughout this challenging season of pandemic. As we begin a time of planning and preparation to re-enter our church buildings and reunite with one another in worship, we pray for your continuing grace, guidance, and comfort. Encourage and equip us, give us wisdom and insight, keep our hearts and minds peaceful and focused on creating safe and welcoming spaces and liturgies. As we once again physically gather in your name, however strange or unsettling our new practices may seem at first, help us remember our faithful worship will always be holy, always pleasing to you. All this, and whatever else you see that we need, we ask in the name of Jesus, Immanuel, 'God-with-us'.

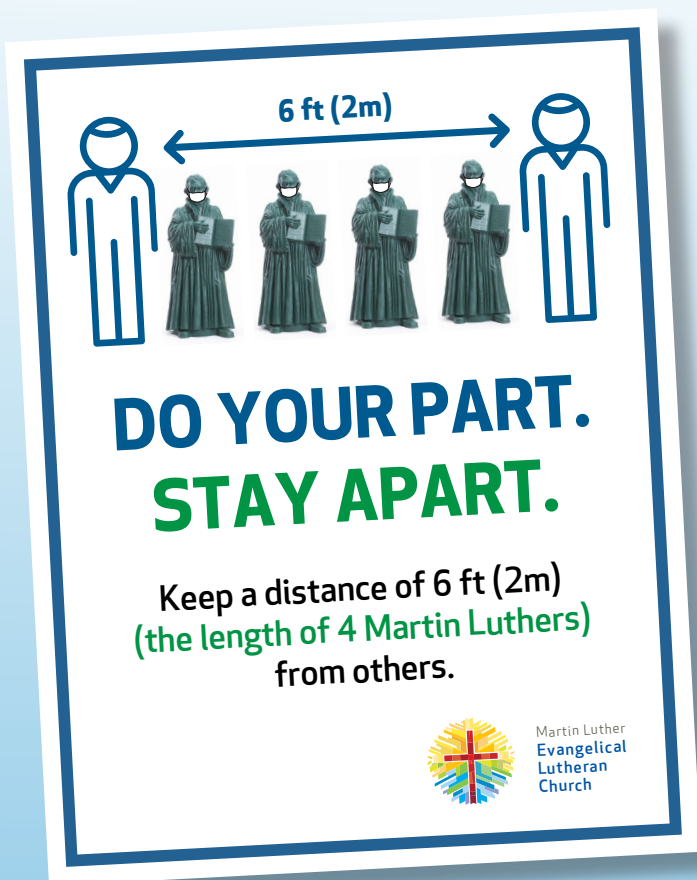
Amen.

*Written by: Rev. Susan Climo*



## How to wear a cloth mask:

- Do wash your hands before putting it on and taking it off.
- Do make sure it fits comfortably over mouth and nose for easy breathing.
- Do wash your cloth mask after each use in the laundry.
- Do clean surfaces that a dirty mask touches.
- Don't touch your face or mask while using it.
- Don't share your mask with others.



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