

Helderberg Reformed Church (HRC)

Policies for Worshipping in the Church Building

Overview - The seating capacity for Helderberg's sanctuary is 184 people. With the Capital Region being in Phase 4 we are allowed to fill up to 33% of those spaces' capacity. Meaning we are able to host 60 people in the sanctuary

Reserving Your Spot - If you would like to attend worship you can reserve your spot each week in one of two ways.

1. Fill out the registration form online. The registration form will be sent from the prayer chain weekly.
2. Or, you can call the office at 518-861-8031 between the hours of 9:00 and 11:30 AM and register with an office volunteer.

This log of RSVPs will be used and also provided to health agencies for the purpose of contact tracing. Please rsvp by noon on Friday. ***When you RSVP you will be asked five COVID-19 screening questions that you will answer on behalf of yourself and your party. If you are sick, stay home and do not come to church! If you answer 'yes' to any of the screening questions or develop symptoms between the time you rsvp and when you show up on Sunday you are to not join in worship. If you don't feel comfortable attending a service in person please know that we will be streaming live every Sunday via Zoom. The link and the telephone number for the Zoom room will be provided along with the bulletin via email the Saturday prior to the service. If you didn't RSVP you can still show up to the church building on Sunday. However, we may not be able to accommodate you if we have reached our limit of 60 people.

Entering the Building - We would like to encourage you to show up at least 15 minutes early in order to navigate the check in process. As you arrive, we ask that you use the main entrance of the building rather than the door closest to the parking lot. As you get out of your car and make your way toward the main entrance please wait outside until an usher checks you in. When you get to the front of the line the greeter will check you in. The greeter will ask you if there are any changes to the answers you gave to our COVID-19 screening questions. After that the usher will take you to a seat in the sanctuary based on the number of people in your party.

Once You Are Inside - Here are some notes for you when you are inside the building: Face masks are required at all times, even when seated. We recognize that this is not the case in restaurants and other commons space, but we feel that this is an important precaution in spaces that get very little air circulation. Hand sanitizer will be available at all doorways and we encourage you to use them. Please bring your own disinfectant wipes to wipe down the area you occupy in the pews as needed and when you leave. We recognize that it will be exciting to see other people, but we ask that you remain seated and visit with people (while socially distanced) before you enter the building or after you exit. Bathrooms will be open, but only one person is allowed in any of the restrooms at one time. No people should wander around the church building. We ask that you stay in the narthex (main entrance), Helderberg Room or the Sanctuary and refrain from going into the Fellowship Hall, choir room, kitchen and classrooms.

Worship Changes - Here are some of the changes to worship: The biggest change is that there will be no singing. At this time corporate singing is too much of a risk. However, the service will not be devoid of music. At this time there will be pre-recorded music and a plan to provide instrumental music is in the works. On Sundays when we celebrate communion, we will provide individual packages with a wafer on top of a small cup of juice. Offering plates will be placed on stools at exit for you to put your offering into. When leaving the worship space, you will be directed to exit in a specific manner to decrease the risk.