

By now you will have received correspondence regarding the reopening of our building for public worship on **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September**, along with details of the 2 morning services, **10am & 11am**. If this correspondence has not reached you or for whatever reason you do not have it to hand please contact the Church Office.

Here is further important information as to arrangements.

#### **BEFORE YOU BOOK:**

Are you displaying any of the following COVID symptoms, or have you been in close contact with anyone displaying these symptoms

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature); OR
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual); OR
- a loss of or change in sense of smell or taste?

**If so, please do NOT attend church activities.**

#### **BOOKING**

To enable us both 'track & trace' and manage numbers you must register to book your attendance. Here is the link to Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/first-antrim-presbyterian-church-31010666707>

If you need help registering attendance or are unable to do so using the online facility please contact the Church Office, 079 2880 9280.

**Please book ONE ticket per household only.**

Once our capacity has been reached we cannot admit any more.

You cannot turn up to either service without indicating so through this arrangement.

You will be able to register for these weekly Sunday services from 10am the Monday preceding.

**FOR SUNDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER YOU CAN REGISTER YOUR ATTENDANCE FROM 9AM TUESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER.**

**Please note:** There is no 11am service on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September. There will be a pre-recorded service broadcast that morning.

If you can no longer attend the service you have booked for, we would ask that you contact us so that we can offer your place to someone else.

#### **PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS**

These arrangements have been made for the safety of all our church family.

In both venues doors will not open until half an hour prior to the service.

## **Halls**

We would ask those attending the 10am service in the Majury Hall to park on the street or in one of the town car parks.

You will enter the halls from the street gate directly in front of the double doors.

A steward will ask you to enter and sanitise your hands, then direct you to go upstairs to the Majury Hall. If there is anyone on the stairs you will be asked to wait until the group ahead clears this area.

At the top of the stairs please wait at the kitchen door until a steward greets you and directs you to a group of seats for your family unit.

Please remain in your seats at all times.

At the end of the service please remain in your seats until a steward comes to you and takes you to the stairs by the kitchen and you will exit via the front doors.

If you wish to leave your offering, there will be baskets on the pool table in the entrance foyer.

## **Church**

For those attending the 11am service in the church building, please use the gates on the church avenue and walk down the paths keeping socially distant.

You can use the church grounds to park your car as is normal.

Please stop at the bottom of the avenue and wait until a steward asks you to come forward to enter the ground floor by the side doors. A hand sanitising station is in each vestibule, please sanitise your hands. A steward will open the inner doors for you to enter the sanctuary. Please wait here for a steward to take you to a seat.

Seating will be allocated from the front to the rear.

Please remain in your seats at all times, and remain seated at the end of the service until a steward directs you to leave, people in the rear pews will leave first.

An offering will not be collected during the service but baskets will be on the window sills in each vestibule, if you wish to leave your offering.

The gallery will be used when downstairs is full. Please sanitise your hands at the sanitising station at the war memorial. Only use the handrail on your right, if required, to go upstairs.

A steward will meet you at the doors and take you to a seat.

Please remain seated at the end of the service until directed to leave by a steward. If you wish to leave your offering, a basket will be on the table at the top of the stairs. Only use the banister on your right, if required, as you go down the stairs.

In both venues toilets will be restricted around emergency use.

We appreciate that you may not be sitting in your usual seat or with a group of friends but we would ask for your cooperation in this matter. Please wear a mask, unless you have a good reason not to do so. Children under the age of 13 are not required to wear a mask.

As indicated in my previous letter, there is no doubt these arrangements carry with them certain deficiencies (yet who knows, some benefits!) but such is life at the moment. We've got to start somewhere. Kirk Session are keeping such arrangements under review even as all of us are aware circumstances could force our hand to enact a different plan.

We are assured that God promises to show himself in a particular way when we meet together to worship (we know that experience don't we?) and at the end of the day he is big and kind enough to carry us through what is unfamiliar, unsettling and unwelcomed by way of gathering together. So we look forward with Good News anticipation to Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September!

Stephen Lockington