



Mt. Zion Board of Elders
8:30pm, May 26, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Mt. Zion,

With the Governor's recent allowance of "social gatherings of no more than 10 people" (EO 2020-96, Section 8, Article A21), we plan to resume limited attendance worship services here at Mt. Zion this Sunday, May 31. Two identical services will be held at 9:00am and 10:30am (with an additional service to be held at 12:00pm, if necessary). Each service will be limited to 10 people in attendance. In order to facilitate this, we are asking each person(s) wanting to attend to please contact Pastor Naumann to sign up for a particular service. Sign up will be first come, first serve. If the service that you wish to attend is full, you may be asked to attend a different one. In addition to this 10 person limit, we will also be implementing the following safety practices:

1. The surface areas in the fellowship hall, nursery, bathrooms, and sanctuary will be sanitized before each worship service.
2. We are encouraging everyone to make use of face coverings which help to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected but does not have symptoms.
3. As you enter the sanctuary, you will see a table with hand sanitizer and bulletins on it. Please use the hand sanitizer and take a bulletin. The hymns will be printed in the bulletin. We will not be using the hymnals.
4. Certain pews within the sanctuary will be designated for seating. We ask that everyone spread out as much as possible and do your best to maintain a six-foot distance from one another at all times. Members of the same household may, of course, sit together.
5. We will not collect the offering during the worship service. Instead, please place your offerings in the plate at the back of the sanctuary.
6. Communion will be contactless self-service. Details will be forthcoming.
7. Following the service, there will be no ushering out. We ask that those seated in the back pews exit first followed by those in the next closest pews and so on.
8. Pastor will not be shaking hands after the service.
9. Worshippers will be asked to exit the church immediately after exiting the sanctuary. Both exit doors will be open for use. With the warm weather we can do our visiting outside after church.

We recognize that the risks associated with COVID-19 have not gone away. If you are sick, at higher risk for complications from COVID-19, or simply do not feel comfortable gathering for worship at this time, please stay home. We will be resuming the practice of live streaming the service, this will happen at 9:00AM ET on Sunday. We encourage you to continue to make use of our online resources.

Out of Christian love, we ask that everyone work extremely hard not to judge whether someone is or is not attending worship. Each individual/family must deal with the threat of COVID-19 according to their own circumstances and conscience. We will be glad to see you when you come; we will be glad to get the service to you when you do not come. We will do our best to understand if you decide you are not comfortable attending service yet; we will also do our best to understand if you do decide to attend service. How any one of us deals with the threat of COVID-19 is NOT a reason for passing judgment on someone else – we each have our own unique situation. Whether you choose to attend or not, we encourage you to spend time together in God’s Word and with your fellow believers, whether that “together” be in person (like at church) or at a distance (such as on YouTube).

Please direct any questions or comments concerning this matter to Pastor Naumann, President Randy Wittorp, Elder Matt Fobear, or Elder Ben Mueller.

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.
In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.
Proverbs 3:5-6*

God’s blessings to you all – and God bless our country!

Mt. Zion Board of Elders

*The following documents were considered and utilized by the Elders in coming to the decision to resume limited attendance worship services and in forming the safely guidelines listed above:

[Michigan Governor Whitmer’s Executive Order 96 \(note esp. sect. 8 art. A21 and sect. 16\)](https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90499_90705-529860--,00.html)
https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90499_90705-529860--,00.html

[Centers for Disease Control’s “Interim Guidance for Communities of Faith”](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/faith-based.html)
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/faith-based.html>