

June 10, 2020

Dear Church Family,

Psalm 22:1 I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

I am very excited for us to meet in the church house for worship once again. It has been thirteen Sundays we have met remotely. Three of those Sundays, we also had drive-in services.

I'm sure you are as excited as I am to worship in our church building. I want to remind you that we must still be cautious. We want to share the gospel, not COVID-19.

If you don't feel well, please stay home. The service will continue to be available on Facebook live for 9:30 a.m., YouTube later Sunday evening and TV.

The east and south entrances will be the only ways into the building. The educational wing will be closed. A volunteer will open the door for you. Please wear a mask, if not for your safety at least for the safety of others. In between the doors there will be someone who will check your temperature. If your temperature is 100 degrees or higher, you will be asked to return home. Once you had your temperature taken, I encourage you to make your way to the sanctuary as quickly as possible to find a seat. Every other pew will be taped off, to create social distance. Once you are seated, you may take your mask off. You only need to wear the mask when you are moving around in the building.

There is now a beautiful wooden offering box on the back table where you can put your offering. (Thank you, Scott Warfel!) We will not pass offering plates. At the conclusion of the service, we are asking for your assistance. There will be wipes in each of the pews. We need you to wipe down the area where you and your family sat, so it is ready for the next service. There will be two trash cans in the back of the sanctuary on each side so you can throw the wipe away before you leave. It would be helpful if you would not linger after the service, so things can be ready for the next service.

We will be having only worship services. There will be no Sunday School, nursery, Wee-Worship or Worship KidStyle. Young children should stay with their parents. We encourage families to sit together and social distance from other families and individuals.

There are three services offered; 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 am. The fellowship hall is equipped with a projector and screen to simulcast during the 9:30 am service only.

We will continue to evaluate and adjust, as we move forward. I want to thank you in advance for your cooperation. First Baptist Church Mattoon is a marvelous congregation. I believe, we will be stronger through all of this and I am praying for a revival. May the Lord make us even more effective in sharing the good news of Jesus with our neighbors, family and friends.

Keep being the church and I look forward to seeing you in the church building.