

# Should I Be Attending Worship Services at My Church?

Use this decision tree to help you make an informed decision.

| <b>1</b><br>What is my health and exposure status?  | <b>2</b><br>How well has my church prepared for a safe reopening?  | <b>3</b><br>What safety measures can I expect to be in place when I go to church for worship?   | <b>4</b><br>What health and safety measures must exist for me to feel safe going to church?   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Am I at a higher risk for COVID-19 infection?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Am I over age 65?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Do I have any of the following conditions: diabetes, hypertension, heart or lung disease, compromised immune system?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Am I under a quarantine or stay-at-home order?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Do I work in close proximity with a person who has been sick or diagnosed with COVID-19 during the past 14 days?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Do I currently have a fever or any of the following symptoms: cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat, muscle or chest pain, fatigue, headache, congestion, runny nose, digestive upset?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Within the past 14 days, have I been sick or diagnosed with COVID-19, or am I sharing a residence with anyone who has been sick or diagnosed with COVID-19?</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Is my church reopening according to current state and local orders and recommendations?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Has our building been disinfected and cleaned, and how frequently will it be disinfected during use?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Has my church reopening team been trained in social distancing, hygiene practices, health and safety protocols, cleaning and disinfection?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Has my church explained the new operating process for arrivals, seating, worship practices, exits, and dealing with apparent illness?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Has my church made in-person or alternate worship options available for children, the elderly, and the disabled?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Has my church made its full reopening plan available?</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Has the church asked people with symptoms or recent exposure to stay home for now?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Will everyone coming into our church be required to wear a mask?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Do we have isolation space or a plan for people who appear to be (or become) ill while at church?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Are social distancing measures clearly marked, explained, and enforced?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Will masks, tissues, hand sanitizer, and no-touch trash cans be available for use?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Will there be people to explain, or signs to remind us of, new worship practices and preventive actions?</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Is my church keeping attendance records, and will I be notified if someone in church is diagnosed with COVID-19?</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> I am willing to stay home if I am ill or may recently have been exposed to COVID-19.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> I am willing to abide by the preventive measures my church requires.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> I want everyone to be wearing a mask.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> I want social distancing measures to be taken seriously and enforced.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> I want to know that I will be contacted in case of possible COVID-19 exposure at church.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> I want to know who to call if I become ill after attending a worship service.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> I will let my church know if for some reason I am not yet able to return after the church has reopened.</li></ul> |
| <b>If any yes, DO NOT GO.</b>   | <b>If you are not satisfied with preparations, DO NOT GO.</b>  | <b>If you are not satisfied with conditions, DO NOT GO.</b>   | <b>If you are comfortable with measures taken, GO.</b>  |

## Resources to Guide and Support Along the Way

For a free church member guide on reopening, checklist, tip sheets, articles, and disclaimer: [www.reopeningthechurch.com](http://www.reopeningthechurch.com)

To facilitate spiritual and emotional care from a biblical, research-based perspective visit: [www.spiritualfirstaidhub.com](http://www.spiritualfirstaidhub.com)

For more on how to begin a master's degree in Humanitarian and Disaster Leadership or a Trauma Certificate at Wheaton College Graduate School: [www.wheaton.edu/HDL](http://www.wheaton.edu/HDL)