



SITTINGBOURNE METHODIST CHURCH

OUTSIDE WORSHIP

The Government allowed services at church to commence from the 4th July 2020, but without singing. We recognise that the risk from Covid-19 is different for each person and is dependent on factors such as age, sex, medical conditions, ethnicity, etc. No-one should feel under any pressure or obligation to return until they are comfortable with returning. Indeed, with social distancing we cannot accommodate everyone who would normally attend.

Circuit services will continue online for those at home.

Covid-19 is a new risk and as such, under the "Health and Safety at Work Act", we are required, by law, to undertake a risk assessment and implement all necessary actions to minimise the risk. A Covid-19 risk assessment has been undertaken and approved by "Church Council." A number of actions are required to be implemented to make attending an outside service Covid safe. These are summarised below:

- You should not attend if you have any Covid symptoms or are required to self-isolate.
- Signs will be put up to remind people of the need for social distancing and hand washing.
- Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned before and after each service e.g. door handles.
- Where possible, doors will be left open to avoid the need to touch them.
- Hand sanitiser will be provided in the welcome area.
- Toilets will be made available for hand washing.
- There is no requirement to wear a face mask outside, but some may feel more comfortable doing so. Please bring your own mask and take it home with you. (Please check current guidance)
- The Steward will log a name and contact details for every household attending. This is a government requirement for "Test and Trace".
- Please bring your own "camping" chair. A limited number of metal chairs are available.
- Only people from the same household should sit together. Depending on the household sizes that attend, capacity is limited to between 25 and 30 people. Please maintain social distance.
- If demand exceeds capacity, a booking system will be introduced.
- Hymn books and bibles will not be provided. Please bring your own bible if you want one. Singing of hymns is not permitted, but recorded hymns may be played.
- Please do not enter the lounge or church unless necessary. This is to prevent cross-contamination between different building users in these areas and minimise cleaning.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Minister or Property Secretary.