

Guidance for Attending Services

We are thankful to once again be able to meet for worship services. However, to minimise the risk of infection we need to observe certain guidelines.

Please note that there is no guarantee that the church is Covid-19 free. It is impossible to eliminate all the risks. The implementation of our risk assessment (which you can view on the church website <http://bath.adventistchurch.org.uk>) simply means that we have taken reasonable steps to lower the risk whilst worshipping together.

Online worship services will continue to be available for those who cannot or do not wish to attend in-person services. Details of online services are posted to the church WhatsApp group or emailed to those not on WhatsApp weekly. Other streaming services are available on the internet, for example see the SEC website (www.sec.adventist.uk).

If you are planning to attend an in-person worship service at Bath church, please take careful note of the following:

Planning your visit

- If you or anyone in your household has COVID-19 you must self-isolate and stay at home.
- If you are feeling unwell, please do not attend in-person services, and stay at home. If you or anyone in your household has COVID-19 symptoms (persistent cough, high temperature, loss or change to sense of smell or taste), please arrange for a COVID-19 test.
- If you are in a vulnerable group (over 70 years old or have underlying health conditions) please consider remaining at home and joining an online service. If you would still like to attend, please take extra care.
- To enable social distancing guidelines to be met, the church has a capacity of between 20 and 25 people, depending on group sizes of those attending.
- The lead person in your group will need to book to attend, stating their name and contact details and the number of people in the group. We are required by law to keep a record of all visitors to the church in case anyone at the service later tests positive for COVID-19.
- If you are arriving by public transport, please observe all the current requirements and guidelines such as wearing a face mask and regular hand sanitising.
- Please limit the personal belongings you bring to church. For example, if arriving by car consider bringing just your bible into the building with you.
- Windows and doors will be open in the church to increase fresh air and minimise risk of infection. Please dress accordingly.
- You will be required to wear a face mask at all times during the service.

Arriving at church

- Please arrive at the scheduled arrival time. The service will start soon afterwards.
- Please enter the church using the main entrance in the car park. If arriving by car, please park in the car park as usual, then move directly to the main entrance together with everyone in your group.
- If others are arriving at the same time as you, please queue up the ramp to the main doors leaving two metres between each group. Markers on the floor will assist you.
- Once at the door please wait for an usher to take your temperature and then invite you into the building. If your temperature is above 37.6 C you will not be allowed to attend the service.
- The lead person in your group will be asked for their name in order to match to the booking.

- You will be asked to sanitise your hands using the alcohol gel provided.
- If you require the toilet, please advise the usher. You may be asked to wait outside until the toilet becomes available. Please wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds before leaving the toilet. The light will remain on so there is no need to touch the light switch.
- Please proceed directly into the church where an usher will direct you to your seat(s). Rows will be filled from the front to the back where possible.
- Please do not move any seats as they have been spaced to allow for social distancing and maximum occupancy.
- While in the building, please minimise what you touch and observe social distancing guidelines including no handshaking or hugging. Try to stay two meters apart from anyone not from your household.

During the service

- Once seated, please do not change seats for the duration of the service and keep any movement within the building, for example to visit the toilet, to an absolute minimum.
- There will be no singing to minimise the risk of spreading the virus.
- There will be no provision for collecting offering – please continue to use online methods of payment where possible or contact the treasurer to make specific arrangements.
- If you start to feel unwell during the service, please get an usher's attention. You will be directed to a quarantine room until you are able to leave.

Departing

- When the service ends you will be asked to leave one row at a time, starting from the front. Ushers will be available to assist.
- You will exit via the front doors which open onto a small courtyard next to the road. Please supervise children closely.
- If you are using public transport, please proceed directly to the bus stop. If you arrived by car, please return directly to your car to start your journey home. Take care when exiting the car park.

Cleaning

- The church will be cleaned thoroughly before each service, following COVID-19 cleaning guidelines.
- The door handles and hand sanitiser dispensers will be disinfected frequently during the service.

Specific guidelines for groups with children

- Discuss the above changes and precautions with your children so that they know what to expect.
- Always keep your children with you.
- There will be no toys or books available for shared use. If you bring any toys or equipment, ensure they are not shared with any other children and take everything home with you.

Thank you for your cooperation. If we all stick to the guidelines, we can keep ourselves and others safe.