

## **Webster United Methodist**

### **Guidelines for Resuming In-Church Worship**

Welcome to Webster United Methodist! We are so thankful to be returning to in-church worship after closing our building for more than a year. Our online worship will continue uninterrupted, but our 10:30 a.m. service in the Church Sanctuary will resume on Pentecost Sunday, May 23.

#### **HOW WE'VE PREPARED:**

Our Church Council and Safety Team have adopted these guidelines to help ensure that we all stay safe. See the details below and check back periodically for updates. Our response to the pandemic is constantly evolving.

#### **LIMITED CAPACITY:**

Attendance at each church service will be limited to 30% of the sanctuary's capacity. Our sanctuary seats 200, so we will take 60 reservations.

#### **SAFE DISTANCING:**

Some rows and seats have been closed off to allow for safe distancing. Please leave 6 feet between family groups. The ushers will assist you with safe seating. Fellowship Hall will be closed, except for the restrooms on that level.

#### **CONTROLLED ENTRANCE AND EXIT:**

Please enter the church via either the elevator (parking lot) door or the lower (ramp) Bompert Avenue door. Our ushers/greeters will provide instructions for safely leaving the building. Worshipers will be dismissed by rows to minimize social contact. Socializing is allowed outside the church building.

#### SANITIZATION:

The sanctuary and restrooms will be sanitized each week prior to worship. Hand sanitizer and masks will be available at both doors.

#### WORSHIP:

A reservation system will be used for worship attendance so that no one is ever turned away due to limited seating capacity. Those planning to attend in-church worship are asked to call the church office (961-4133) during the prior week, [or contact our church secretary at \[secretary@websterum.org\]\(mailto:secretary@websterum.org\)](#). Leave a message with your name and the number of people in your group.

Monthly, we will share Communion using pre-packaged elements. We will have worship music, and worshipers (masked) will be allowed to sing.

Offering plates will not be passed by ushers, but will be placed in the narthex.

Worshipers are encouraged to arrive at church early to avoid last minute seating bottlenecks.

#### CHURCH ELEVATOR:

The church elevator will be available for accessing the sanctuary; however, Sunday school classes will not be able to meet in the church building. Elevator use is restricted to two persons or one family unit at a time.

#### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:

We will not be able to offer Children's Ministry [or Nursery care](#) safely during the worship service yet. We are hopeful that it can be added

later this year. Children attending church services will be able to pick up a bag with age-appropriate contents.

**LIMITED AMENITIES:**

Refreshments are not offered, and food & beverages are not permitted in the building, since consuming them requires the removal of masks. Water fountains are closed. Restrooms are available in the hallway by the Church Office and in Fellowship Hall.

**CONTACT FREE GREETINGS:**

Greeters may wave a warm welcome, but cannot shake hands. Doors will be propped open. Bulletins containing the Order of Worship will not be distributed.

**WHAT WE ASK YOU TO DO:**

IF YOU DON'T FEEL WELL, or have been around someone exposed to or diagnosed with COVID-19, please stay home and worship with us online.

MAINTAIN SIX FOOT DISTANCE between you and others who are not part of your family unit.

FACE COVERINGS are required at all times inside the church.

WASH YOUR HANDS often with soap and water.

FOLLOW DIRECTIONS given you by our ushers/greeters. Avoid the temptation to socialize while inside the church building.

CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING to help as an usher or cleaner since these procedures will require additional workers.

