

## Re-Entry Plan for Hope Lutheran Church

This document is based on information from Bishop Tom Aitken, the NEMN Synod, ELCA Churchwide, and Public Health Officials.

**Depending on the situation in our region - these policies will be re-evaluated as necessary.**

There are three levels to our re-entry plan: Red, Yellow, and Green (just like the stop light).

**Level 3 – Stop** – We will be in this stage until further notice.

Those in the high-risk categories or those who do not feel well should stay home.

- **Worship**
  - We will continue live streaming online, broadcasting on KQKK radio, Leech Lake TV, and YouTube.
  - Worship teams and essential staff are to maintain physical distancing.
  - No more than 10 persons are allowed in the sanctuary at one time.
- **Committees and Small Groups**
  - Committees and small groups may meet in-person (with physical distancing) on a case-by-case basis with approval of Hope's Leadership, but are encouraged to meet virtually if possible.
  - When meeting in-person, masks should be worn.
  - Indoor gatherings will be subject to current building use policies used by all committees and small groups.
- **Youth and Family Ministries**
  - No in-person gatherings.
  - A virtual presence has been established with High School and Middle School Youth Groups, Sunday School, VBS, etc.
- **Staff**
  - Staff may work on site at Hope, but are encouraged to work remotely as able.
  - The building will be unlocked when staff is on site.
- **Congregational Care**
  - Pastoral care will occur primarily through phone calls.
  - Our volunteer phone outreach ministry will continue to connect with members.
  - Pastors may do emergency visits at their discretion.

## Level 2 – Caution

Those in high-risk categories or those who do not feel well are encouraged to stay home.

- **Worship**
  - We will continue live streaming online, broadcasting on KQKK radio, Leech Lake TV, and YouTube.
  - In-person worship will be re-evaluated and when deemed safe will open with the following restrictions:
    - You will need to contact the office to register in order to attend worship to respect capacity limits.
    - You will be seated from front to back, and excused from back to front.
    - All hymnals, envelopes, pens, fellowship pads, etc. will be removed from the pews.

- Masks are strongly encouraged.
  - There will be no congregational singing and no spoken responses to liturgy, prayers, or creeds, etc.
  - There will be containers at the back of the sanctuary for offerings.
  - There will be no bulletins.
  - Hand sanitizer will be available.
  - There will be no fellowship time following worship.
  - All are requested to go straight to their cars or maintain physical distancing in the parking lot before and after worship. Please refrain from lingering in the narthex.
  - The nursery will not be available nor will there be quiet bags for children.
  - Physical distancing of a 6 feet circumference per family unit will be maintained.
  - Restroom use will be limited to two at a time.
- **Committee Meetings and Small Groups**
    - All church committees and small groups may resume meeting in-person with groups no larger than 20 on a case-by-case basis with approval of Hope's Leadership where physical distancing of 6 feet will be maintained.
    - Masks should be worn when meeting in-person.
    - Hand sanitizer will be available.
    - Indoor gatherings would be subject to current building use policies used by all committees and small groups.
  - **Youth and Family Ministries**
    - We will continue virtual presence with High School and Middle School Youth groups, Sunday School, VBS, etc.
    - In-person gatherings will be re-evaluated and may resume when deemed safe with restrictions.
      - Outdoor gatherings would be preferred and may be subject to physical distancing, wearing masks, etc.
      - Indoor gatherings would be subject to current building use policies used by all committees and small groups.
  - **Staff**
    - Staff may work on site at Hope or continue to work remotely.
    - The building will be unlocked when staff is on site.
  - **Congregational Care**
    - Pastoral care will occur primarily through phone calls.
    - Our volunteer phone outreach ministry will continue to connect with members.
    - Pastors may do emergency visits at their discretion.

## Level 1: Go

We will rejoice in welcoming everyone back to Hope  
Lutheran Church for an Easter celebration!!!

- **Worship**
  - We will gratefully return to full in-person worship.
  - We will continue live streaming online, broadcasting on KQKK radio, Leech Lake TV, and YouTube.
- **Committees and Small Groups**

- Committees and small groups may resume in-person meetings as normal.
- Our facility will be open to public use.
- **Youth and Family Ministries**
  - Youth and family ministries may resume all regular activities
- **Staff**
  - Staff may resume normal work routines.
- **Congregational Care**
  - Pastoral care may resume as normal.

*Special thanks to Rev. Alberta Ervin for sharing the format for this document.*