

**Guidelines for in-person worship at Rye Presbyterian Church
Updated August 2021**

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

Psalms 122:1

As promised, we continue to evaluate and adjust our policies as circumstances and guidelines change. Because of the increased incidence of COVID infections in Westchester County at this time, we have modified our mask policy:

***Masks continue to be required for all unvaccinated people,
but are now highly recommended for the vaccinated.***

Other than the masking change, our previous guidelines remain – see below. And know that our live-stream services are going well and will continue in some form for the foreseeable future.

The following are procedures for in-person worship in the RPC sanctuary:

1. Worship attendance remains limited to allow for safe distancing for all present. For our sanctuary, that is about 150 people, depending on household size.
2. **Masks will be required for all unvaccinated people and are highly recommended for the vaccinated.** Vaccinated people may sing while masked, while unvaccinated and unmasked people will be asked to refrain from singing.
3. Pews will remain marked off to maintain social distancing. Please only sit in pews with the cushions turned down.
4. For the time being, we will not be requiring reservations to attend in person. This will be revisited for the fall season.
5. We request that you attend only if you are healthy, and are showing no signs or symptoms of illness. In addition, if you have not been fully vaccinated, please attend only if you have not had any known exposure to COVID-19 in the preceding two weeks.
6. Entry into the church will continue to be through the main sanctuary doors facing the Post Road.
7. Through the summer there is no Sunday School, but children are welcome to sit with their families during worship. Unvaccinated children over two years of age are required to wear masks. We will provide coloring pages and illustrated children’s bulletins that will be connected to each Sunday’s readings.
8. As has been our practice over the last year, the following remains true:
 - Families of five or less will be able to sit together. If your family group is larger, we ask that you split up and use two separate pews.
 - To increase air circulation, while the AC will be running, we will also have windows open. Please feel free to dress comfortably.
 - The offering plate will not be passed. Offerings may be put in the offering plates at the exits.
9. Coffee and refreshments will be available after worship in front of the sanctuary.

Thank you for your understanding and your concern for the safety of all.