

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

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

*Psalm 122:1*

In keeping with our practices since March of 2020, we have continued to study recommendations and guidelines from the NYS Department of Health, the CDC, and Presbytery. The guiding principle of the task force has been to ensure the health and safety of our congregants and of our leadership.

In light of recent decisions by the CDC and New York State reflecting the situation regarding COVID-19, we have revised our guidelines for in-person worship and other gatherings at the church facility. Below are our revised worship guidelines. 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 (every other pew) for all present. For our sanctuary, that is about 150 people, depending on household size.
2. **Masks are once again required for all people about the age of 2, regardless of vaccination status.**
3. Those not yet vaccinated are also asked to refrain from singing.
4. Pews will remain marked off to maintain social distancing. Please only sit in pews with the cushions turned down.
5. Reservations will be required through Christmas Eve and not be in use in 2022 until needed.
6. We request that you attend only if you are healthy, and are showing no signs or symptoms of illness.
7. Entry into the church can now be through any door.
8. Sunday school is now back and active.
  - So we can safely plan for Sunday mornings, please make sure to sign your children up for Childcare and Sunday School each week using the form on our website [here](#).
9. 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, we will also have windows open. Please feel free to dress comfortably.
  - The offering plate will not be passed. Your offerings may be made online or put in the offering plates at the exits.
10. Coffee and refreshments after service are on hold until the weather improves!

**Thank you for taking the time to read this.**