



Dear Met church family,

We are very glad to announce that we feel we are in a position to attempt once again to resume in-person services this week. The City of Ottawa has passed a new bylaw that requires masks to be worn in public spaces such as churches, but the text of the bylaw gives room for the “operators” of facilities to remove their masks, and this gives scope for service leaders and preachers to speak without masks (something we have deemed essential for the sake of clear communication). In addition, Ottawa Public Health has issued separate guidance giving preachers and service leaders freedom not to wear a mask as long as certain protocols are followed.

So, with that in place, we plan to meet this Sunday, July 19th for a single service at 10AM. While there will be some elements of the service that we will need to modify or film in advance (including all singing), there is much we can do to worship together. We want now to share with you some important details as we prepare for the weekend.

We will be asking everyone to pre-register for the services so that we are able to respect the capacity limits. Beginning now, you will be able to register for the live service at 10AM through our [website](#). After a brief self-assessment, you will be directed to Eventbrite to read through a list of Q&As, then to register. We plan to operate our facility well below the government limit of 30% capacity. The service will be offered in the sanctuary, with a live feed (and a live pastoral presence) in the gym. Please print your ticket and bring it with you Sunday, or be prepared to show it on your mobile device. If you are having difficulty registering, or you would like for us to reach out to someone else who is having difficulty, please call the church office (613-238- 8182) or send an email to info@metbiblechurch.ca.

If you are unwell, have travelled out of the country in the last fourteen days, or are in a group vulnerable to COVID-19 complications, we encourage you to continue to participate in our service remotely, by linking to our [Virtual Church](#) page. We will be live-streaming the service, and we will keep the recording of the service up on our digital channels. Further details from Ottawa Public Health can be found [here](#).

We would appreciate if you would please arrive no earlier than twenty minutes before the service. We would also greatly appreciate if you would move outside the building after the service, to avoid any crowding possibilities in the hallways. Masks are mandatory at all times.

Sadly, it will not be possible to offer any Sunday School (METTykes or METKids) or any adult classes. The Hub, Café, and Library will not be open. There will be an opportunity for you to give your tithes and offerings through offering boxes at the entrances, and our [online giving](#) options continue.

Even as we plan to reintegrate live services at the church building, we are aware that some will not be comfortable attending in person, while some will not be able to attend because of health conditions or other factors. For those not planning to gather in the larger body, we want to suggest that gathering with a few other members of the church family to watch the live service together in a home might be a viable option. Even smaller gatherings will not be possible for everyone, but, where feasible, meeting in person with other believers will encourage you in your walk with Christ and allow you to build one another up by reminding each other of the things we have believed, the promises and character of God. We want to encourage you to follow the government guidelines as you meet, but, as we enter Stage 3, there is room for this type of gathering to flourish.

We look forward to seeing you Sunday, and we would ask that you continue to pray with us for a safe Sunday!

With thanks and continued prayers,

Jonathan Griffiths and Chris Shadbolt