

Drive In Worship Guidelines

After a long hiatus from gathering as the People of God, St. Matthew will worship together on Pentecost Sunday (May 31), with “Drive In Worship.” Worship times will be at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. It will take place in our parking lots (where you will stay in your car and sound will be transmitted through your car radio). The parking lot will open for worship 30 minutes prior to each service. Attendants will be available as you drive up to place you accordingly in the parking lot. (Detailed parking instructions below.)

Attendants will also be in the parking lot to distribute bulletins and the communion elements to everyone in your car once you are parked. Holy Communion will take place at the usual time in the service and you will share it with everyone in your car.

The elements of bread and grape juice come individually wrapped so they are sanitized. At the given time in the service, you will be instructed to open them and prepare to take communion at the same time as everyone else. It is encouraged to bring your own tissue or paper towel in case of a spill.

The unisex restroom (next to the women’s) outside of Fellowship Hall, will be the only restroom open for use. It will be sanitized between usage.

Offerings will be received as you leave worship. An attendant will be holding a basket as you exit the parking lot for you to place your offering should you desire to bring one that day.

Finally, if May 31 is forecasted with heavy rain, we will inform you by putting a message on the church answering machine, post it on the church website, Facebook, and channel 27 (WHTM).

Below are further instructions with regards to parking:

Our worship services will be at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Our parking lot will open at **8:30 a.m.** and **10:30 a.m.** for vehicles.

Attendants will be in our main parking lot to assist you in where to park. If that lot fills, please see below for instructions about parking elsewhere.

Enter the parking lot from Franklin Street, either from Frederick or W. Chestnut Street. An attendant will direct you to either lower or the upper entrance of the parking lot. As you enter the lot, continue at the direction of the attendance. You will be moving to the opposite lot and parking directly behind the car ahead of

you or beginning a new row. Space will be left between rows for social distancing. We will fill the upper lot first and then the lower lot. A row will be left open in case of emergency.

Once you are parked, another attendant, who will be wearing a mask and gloves, will distribute a bulletin to each person in your vehicle. They will also give each communing person an individually wrapped communion container that includes grape juice and a wafer.

You will hear the service through your car radio. Turn your ignition to ACC (Accessories) and then tune to the correct station. A sign will be placed at the main parking lot for the radio station frequency.

Please remain in your vehicle at all times. Windows may be down. You may choose to wear a mask. Do not reach out to shake hands with those near you. If you exit your vehicle at any time, you must wear a mask. The building will only be accessible for restroom use.

At the conclusion of the service, the attendants will dismiss you by rows. Vehicles in the upper lot will exit via the alley onto W. Chestnut Street. There will be an attendant at W. Chestnut Street to facilitate your exit. Vehicles in the lower lot will exit onto Franklin Street and will be able to turn right or left or go straight to the alley behind the administration building. Attendants will hold baskets for offering as you exit the lot.

If the main parking lot becomes full, parking will be available along Franklin Street, in the YWCA lot and in the borough lot, both accessible on W. Chestnut Street. Attendants will be there to distribute bulletins and communion containers. The service will be available on your radio.

It will be wonderful to see everyone. We hope to fill the parking lots!

With you in Christ,
St. Matthew Staff