



Grace  
Lutheran Church  
ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA

# Granting Grace to One Another: Stages of Returning to In-Person Worship at Grace





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Stage One: Complete Social Distancing	Stage Two: Strict Social Distancing	Stage Three: Moderate Social Distancing	Stage Four: Limited Social Distancing
No in-person ministry activities	<b>Sanitizing team</b> is established, and will wipe down contact surfaces after each worship service	<b>Sanitizing team</b> continues its work	<b>Sanitizing team</b> continues its work
Worship is conducted online only	In-person worship may resume, though parishioners will need to <b>sign-up to attend</b> (can do so online or by calling the church office); worship will be recorded and broadcast online for those who choose to worship from their homes	In-person worship continues, but <b>sign-up lists are no longer required</b> ; worship will continue to be recorded and broadcast online for those who choose to worship from their homes	In-person worship continues; worship will continue to be recorded and broadcast online for those who choose to worship from their homes
Worship is conducted online only	In-person worship attendance limited to <b>50 people per service</b>	In-person worship attendance only limited by moderate social distancing	In-person worship attendance with limited social distancing
Worship is conducted online only	In-person worship will be held in the <b>Fellowship Hall</b>	In-person worship will be held in the <b>Sanctuary</b>	In-person worship continues in the <b>Sanctuary</b>
Worship is conducted online only	In-person worshipers bring <b>folding chairs</b> from their homes - socially-distanced seating will be marked on the <b>Fellowship Hall</b> floor	In-person worship returns to the <b>Sanctuary</b> and seating is determined by moderate social distancing	In-person worship continues to be held in the <b>Sanctuary</b> ; seating to be determined by limited social distancing
Worship is conducted online only	In-person worshipers (ages 2+) must wear <b>face masks</b> until no longer recommended by the CDC	In-person worshipers (ages 2+) must wear <b>face masks</b> until no longer recommended by the CDC	In-person worshipers (ages 2+) must wear <b>face masks</b> until no longer recommended by the CDC
No traffic permitted	<b>Traffic patterns</b> are established; elevators are to be used by people with limited mobility only	<b>Traffic patterns</b> are revised; elevators recommended to be used by people with limited mobility	<b>Traffic patterns</b> return to normal; elevators are fully accessible to all
Worship is conducted online only	<b>Interior doors</b> will be propped open where possible	<b>Interior doors</b> continue to be propped open where possible	All <b>doors</b> return to normal
<b>Water fountains</b> are inaccessible	<b>Water fountains</b> are inaccessible	<b>Water fountains</b> are inaccessible	<b>Water fountains</b> may be used (if masks are no longer recommended by the CDC)
<b>Bathrooms</b> are inaccessible	<b>Bathrooms</b> are accessible; request one user at a time	<b>Bathrooms</b> are fully operational	<b>Bathrooms</b> fully operational



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No <b>visitors</b> permitted on church property	All <b>visitors</b> must provide at least one form of contact information in order to worship	<b>Visitor</b> contact information is still preferred	<b>Visitor</b> contact information is still preferred
No in-person ministry activities	No <b>congregational singing</b>	<b>Congregational singing</b> resumes, unless CDC recommends otherwise	<b>Congregational singing</b> continues, unless CDC recommends otherwise
<b>Choir</b> will meet virtually and lead song in virtual format	No <b>choir</b> singing at in-person worship; some soloists and instrumentalists may be acceptable	<b>Choir</b> may resume singing, provided that the CDC, ACDA, and/or ALCM has presented a reasonably safe way of doing so	<b>Choir</b> may resume singing, provided that the CDC, ACDA, and/or ALCM has presented a reasonably safe way of doing so
<b>Hymnals</b> unavailable	<b>Hymnals</b> unavailable	<b>Hymnals</b> unavailable	<b>Hymnals</b> return to pew racks
<b>Bulletins</b> contain all worship info and are available on website	<b>Bulletins</b> contain all worship info and are not handed out by ushers	<b>Bulletins</b> contain all worship info and are not handed out by ushers	<b>Bulletins</b> contain most worship info; ushers may return to the practice of handing them out to worshipers
<b>Offering</b> will be collected electronically and through the mail	<b>Offering</b> will be collected by a basket that worshipers may deposit their contributions into as they leave the building; mail-in and electronic offering are still preferred	<b>Offering</b> will be collected by a basket that worshipers may deposit their contributions into as they leave the building; mail-in and electronic offering are still preferred	<b>Offering</b> may be collected by the passing of the plate; mail-in and electronic offering are still preferred
<b>Passing of the peace</b> limited to those in one's home	<b>Passing of the peace</b> removed from liturgy and replaced temporarily by a litany of the peace	<b>Passing of the peace</b> remains omitted; litany of the peace continues	<b>Passing of the peace</b> returns to the liturgy; emphasis given that physically touching others is not necessary for this liturgical act
<b>Communion</b> will not be conducted	<b>Communion</b> will not be conducted	<b>Communion</b> will be conducted in one element only (bread)	<b>Communion</b> will be conducted using both elements; emphasis given that one element remains sufficient, as always
<b>Baptisms</b> will not be conducted	<b>Baptisms</b> will not be conducted	<b>Baptisms</b> will not be conducted	<b>Baptisms</b> may be conducted for adults; infant Baptisms to resume at a later time



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<b>Nursery</b> is closed	<b>Nursery</b> remains closed	<b>Nursery</b> remains closed	<b>Nursery</b> remains closed until at least one staff member is hired to fill the Nursery Attendant vacancy
<b>Fellowship</b> activities may be conducted online or on the telephone	<b>Fellowship</b> activities are not permitted to be held indoors	<b>Fellowship</b> activities may be held indoors, assuming moderate social distancing is observed; no food is permitted at this stage	<b>Fellowship</b> activities may be held indoors, assuming limited social distancing is observed; food is permitted, (if masks are no longer recommended by the CDC)
<b>Social gathering</b> outside on church property is not permitted	<b>Social gathering</b> outside on church property is not permitted	<b>Social gathering</b> outside on church property is permitted, assuming moderate social distancing is observed	<b>Social gathering</b> outside on church property is permitted, assuming limited social distancing is observed
No in-person ministry activities; <b>faith formation</b> is conducted in the home	<b>Faith formation</b> activities are not permitted to be held indoors	<b>Faith formation</b> activities may be held indoors, assuming moderate social distancing is observed and all events are scheduled with the church office	<b>Faith formation</b> activities may be held indoors, assuming limited social distancing is observed
<b>Committee</b> meetings are to be conducted remotely	<b>Committee</b> meetings are to be conducted remotely	<b>Committee</b> meetings are encouraged to be conducted remotely; the Fellowship Hall is the only permissible space for scheduled in-person committee meetings, provided that moderate social distancing is observed	All <b>committees</b> may meet at their own discretion, provided that limited social distancing is observed and options exist for committee members who wish to participate remotely
<b>Outside groups</b> are not permitted to use church facilities	<b>Outside groups</b> are not permitted to use church facilities	<b>Outside groups</b> are not permitted to use church facilities	<b>Outside groups</b> may use church facilities if they agree to adhere to limited social distancing as outlined by Grace staff
<b>Pastors and staff</b> work from home	<b>Pastors and staff</b> work in their offices or from home, as capabilities allow	<b>Pastors and staff</b> work primarily in their offices; all office visits must be scheduled	<b>Pastors and staff</b> resume normal working conditions



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### Remember:

- **Progression** through these stages will be determined by the **Congregation Council**
- **Progression** through these stages **may not be strictly linear**; we may need to move backwards and forwards as we continue discerning what measures will keep all of us reasonably safe
- The **Congregation Council** may alter the details of any stage at any time, and will make every effort to communicate changes as quickly and effectively as possible
- These stages were established by the **Congregation Council**, following the recommendations of the ELCA, the SC Synod, Grace's pastors, the Health & Wellness Committee, the CDC, SC DHEC, the White House, and other sources of public health information. For more information, please visit the COVID-19 page on our website [here](#).

### *5 Ways We Will Show Love for One Another*

1. **Physical Distancing**
2. **Cloth Face Coverings**
3. **Proper Hand-washing**
4. **Cleaning Contact Surfaces**
5. **Staying Home When We Are Sick and When We Have Been Exposed**

### **Grace Lutheran Church**

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