



# St. Mark

## **WE ARE CURRENTLY WORSHIPPING BOTH IN-PERSON AND ONLINE**

UPDATED: 1/13/2021

We are excited to return to in-person services! Our leadership team and other volunteers continue to spend a lot of time in discussion and pray trying to ensure our worship experience is safe and works for everyone! Both your spiritual and physical well-being are top of mind when discussing our worship. Please take the time to read the following information.

MAJOR UPDATES SINCE LAST REVISION: Communion will take place in the sanctuary, while still following proper guidelines. Drive up communion will remain in the narthex between services for those who prefer. Read below for complete set of guidelines.

### **What do I need to know about returning to onsite worship?**

- We are following the State of Ohio guideline. ([coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/responsible/Religious-Services.pdf](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/responsible/Religious-Services.pdf))
- Social distancing is required.
- Masks are required while inside. Masks are available to those who need one. Children under the age of 10 are not required to wear masks.
- If you are unable to wear a mask for any reason, please contact the church office, Pastor Girard, or an Elder prior to entering.
- Hand sanitizer stations are available.
- If you are sick/coughing/fever or are caring for/exposed to someone who is sick/coughing/fever, please stay home! We encourage you to worship online until you return to full health.
- We will offer in-person and live stream services at 8:15am and 11:00am

#### **St. Mark Lutheran Church**

Rev. Steven Girard, Pastor  
1330 North Carpenter Road  
Brunswick, OH 44212  
330-225-3110

[www.StMarkBrunswick.org](http://www.StMarkBrunswick.org)



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## What will the worship service look like?

- We are attempting to keep services as normal as possible with a few exceptions for everyone's safety.
- Seating – Certain pews have been blocked off to ensure social distancing while seated. Members should sit with their family leaving six feet between other people.
- Communion – Communion will be offered each week. It will be offered both during the services and in between the services. Our in-service communion format has been modified to ensure we are following recommended health guidelines while allowing our members to commune and connect with God. Communion between the services will be offered for those who are worshiping at home as a drive up service or those who prefer to take communion at this time.
- Offering – An offering plate will be placed in the narthex for you to drop your envelope. Online giving is also available (please visit our website for more info).

## What do I do when I arrive?

- Please have a mask on prior to entering the building. Please keep your mask on at all times while in the building. This includes while seated during the service.
- Certain pews have been blocked off to ensure social distancing while seated.
- Members should sit with their family leaving six feet between other people.
- Please do not gather in the narthex prior to the service. While fellowship is an important part of our Christian faith, we want to do our part to ensure everyone's safety at this time.

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## What do I do when the service is over?

- Please remain seated until you are ushered out of your pew.
- An usher will release each pew to take communion and/or exit the sanctuary row by row.
- Please do not gather in the narthex following the service. While fellowship is an important part of our Christian faith, we want to do our part to ensure everyone's safety at this time.

## Why is it important to follow this plan?

- These guidelines have been set to hopefully minimize the spread of any disease while still allowing us to worship.
- Both your spiritual and physical well-being is important to us. We want to make sure everyone has a way to worship safely, whether in person or online.
- We want to make everyone feel comfortable. We understand the difficult times we are in, but we know God remains in control!

We will continue to monitor the situation. These guidelines are subject to change as new information becomes available. We encourage you to continue to check our website ([www.stmarkbrunswick.org](http://www.stmarkbrunswick.org)) and Facebook ([facebook.com/stmarkbrunswick](https://facebook.com/stmarkbrunswick)) for any updates. If you have any questions comments or concern, please reach out. You can contact the church office (330-225-3110), reach out to Pastor, and/or talk to an Elder.

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## FAQ

*Q: Are masks required?*

A: Yes, masks are required at all times while in the building. This includes while seated in your pew during the service. Children under 10 years old are not required to wear a mask. Masks are available for those who do not have one. If you are unable to wear a mask for any reason, please contact the church office, Pastor Girard, or an Elder prior to entering.

*Q: Will everyone be wearing a mask?*

A: Masks are required when inside the building. Children under 10 are not required to wear a mask. Pastor and the readers will not wear a mask when on the Altar. Worship Team singers will not wear a mask when in the Worship Team area. We are asking that everyone, including Pastor, readers, and singers, wear a mask at all other times when inside.

*Q: Will live streaming be available?*

A: Yes, we will continue to live stream both 8:15am and 11:00am services to our YouTube channel each week.

*Q: Will communion still be available?*

A: Yes. Communion will be available both during the services and in between the services. Our in-service communion format has been modified to ensure we are following recommended health guidelines while allowing our members to commune and connect with God. Communion between the services will be offered for those who are worshiping at home as a drive up service or those who prefer to take communion at this time