



A GUIDE FOR

RETURNING

TO

WORSHIP

MALVERN BAPTIST
CHURCH

July 18th, 2021



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR RYAN

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-

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I am excited to resume in-person worship at MBC starting August 1st, 2021! This past year and a half of social distancing have deepened my conviction that there is something special about being together as a church family, worshipping in unison, knowing that God is present with us.

However, as much as we may long to be together as a church, it is important to recognize that not everyone will be ready to return at the same time. We all face different situations in terms of our health, the wellbeing of loved ones, the environments we work in, and our personal comfort level. We must respect the need for everyone to discern when it is right for them to return. So we will continue to offer worship online at malvernchristian.ca for those who choose to join us from home. Know that as you do so, God is present with you and you are still part of our church family.

Those of us who are ready to return to in-person worship will need to do so responsibly. The guidelines below explain how MBC will meet and in some cases go beyond government guidelines/requirements for public worship. They will also explain what you can expect when you return to church, and how you can do your part to keep your church family safe.

If, at any point, you have questions or concerns, or I encourage you to contact me, one of the other pastors, or one of our deacons. We are all here to serve God and to serve you.

In Christ,

Rev. Ryan Lawrence

EM Pastor Malvern Baptist Church

RETURNING TO WORSHIP AT MBC

IS THE CHURCH CLEAN?

- ✓ The building has been professionally sanitized with an anti-microbial coating that will help prevent germs from living on surfaces.
- ✓ The building is professionally cleaned on a regular basis.
- ✓ A team of volunteers will disinfectant the building between services.

SHOULD I ATTEND WORSHIP?

Only **attend** if you are comfortable doing so:

- ✓ If you choose to worship at home we will understand and fully support your decision.
- ✓ We will continue to offer online worship at malvernchristian.ca

Please **refrain** from attending if you have:

- ✗ Travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days.
- ✗ Been in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
- ✗ COVID-19 symptoms such as a cough, fever, difficulty breathing, sore throat, runny nose, loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting diarrhea, headache, pink eye, fatigue, sore muscles or joints.

See Appendix: Toronto Public Health Screening Guide

BEFORE I COME TO CHURCH

- ✓ Ensure you have a **mask for everyone in your household aged 2 and up**. If you cannot wear a mask for medical reasons please contact the church office so we can accommodate your needs.
- ✓ Consider **preregistering at malvernchristian.ca/em-covid/** as this will save time checking in when you arrive. It will also reserve you a space, as attendance will be limited to ensure physical distancing.
- ✓ Consider **bringing your own Bible**, as all hymnals and pew Bibles have been removed.
- ✓ Consider **bringing a bottle of water**, as the kitchen will be closed.
- ✓ Consider **bringing activities for your children** as there will be no children's programming.

SUNDAY MORNING

WHEN YOU ARRIVE

EM Worship still starts at 9:30 AM.

You will need to **check-in each Sunday** at the front door. We will:

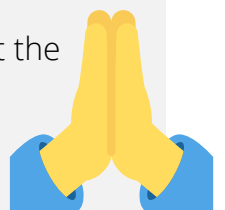
- **Check your temperature** using a non-contact thermometer.
- **Ask you screening questions** (see *Appendix: Toronto Public Health Screening Guide*).
- Ask you to **apply hand-sanitizer**, which we will provide.
- Ensure you are **wearing a mask** (see *Before I Come to Church*).
- **Record your contact information** for the purpose of contact tracing.
 - Your information will be kept confidential.
 - Your information will not be used for any other purposes.
 - Preregistering on the COVID-19 page at malvernchristian.ca will speed up this process.



Attendance will be monitored and restricted to ensure 2 meters of physical distancing. You can preregister at malvernchristian.ca/em-covid/ to ensure your space is reserved.

DURING THE SERVICE

- **Practice social distancing.** Separate households must stay at least 2 meters (6 feet) apart. Every other pew in the sanctuary has been blocked off.
- **Keep your mask on.**
- **Follow the floor markers** that have been placed on the ground to guide traffic and promote social distancing.
- Be aware that **worship will not be exactly the same** as before COVID-19. Some elements of the service will be modified to comply with government regulations.
 - Currently, indoor singing is discouraged by the City of Toronto.
- All in-church programming beyond the Worship Service remains **cancelled** until further notice. There will be:
 - **No Sunday School**
 - **No Children's programming**
- We will **not be passing offering plates**. Please **use the collection boxes** at the back of the sanctuary.
- There will be **no physical bulletin**. Announcements will be displayed on the screen and at malvernchristian.ca.



SUNDAY MORNING CONT'D

ATTENDING TO YOUR CHILDREN

If you need to attend to your child, the following areas are set aside for you:

- Nursery
- Choir room
- All of the classrooms downstairs



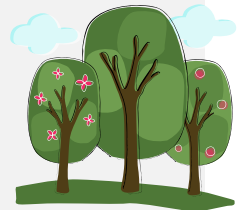
To ensure social distancing, the number of families allowed in a room at a time will be limited. Each room's capacity is posted by the door.

AFTER THE SERVICE

We ask that you **leave the building promptly** after the service to:

- Ensure that our English and Chinese congregations are not in the building at the same time.
- Give us time to clean the building before our Chinese congregation arrives.
- Help us all maintain social distancing.

If you would like to socialize after the service we **encourage you to do so outside on the church lawn**, where there is more space for social distancing and better ventilation. There will be large, open tents for shade.



WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I'M DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19?

Please contact the church office immediately by:

Phone: (416) 754-3471 ext. 101 or
Email: admin@malvernchristian.ca

This will allow us to alert everyone else who attended worship that day. **We will not disclose your identity** when alerting other attendees.

Thank you for doing your part to keep our community safe! We are looking forward to worshipping with you!

TORONTO PUBLIC HEALTH SCREENING GUIDE



COVID-19 Patron Screening Poster

All patrons must self-screen before entering the premises.

Updated July 8, 2021

1. Do you have any of the following new or worsening symptoms or signs?



Fever or chills



Cough



Trouble breathing

Sore throat or
trouble swallowingRunny or
stuffy noseDecrease or loss
of taste or smellNausea, vomiting
or diarrhea

Pink eye



Headache*

Very tired, sore
muscles or joints*

If you have an existing health condition that gives you the symptoms, select "No," unless the symptom is new, different or getting worse.

*If mild headache, tiredness, sore muscles or joints occur within 48 hours after getting a COVID-19 vaccine, select "No" and continue to follow all public health measures. If symptoms last longer than 48 hours or worsen, select "Yes."

If "YES" to any symptoms: Stay home & self-isolate + get tested or contact a health care provider

2. Does anyone in your household have one or more of the above symptoms and/or are waiting for test results after experiencing symptoms? Yes
No
- If you are fully vaccinated[†], select "No."
 - If the household member's mild headache, tiredness, sore muscles or joints occurred within 48 hours after getting a COVID-19 vaccine, select "No". If their symptoms last longer than 48 hours or worsen, select "Yes."
3. Have you been notified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 or been told to stay home and self-isolate? Yes
No
- If you are fully vaccinated[†] and have not been advised to self-isolate by public health, select "No."
4. In the last 10 days, have you tested positive on a rapid antigen test or a home-based self-testing kit? Yes
No
- If you have since tested negative on a lab-based PCR test, select "No."
5. In the last 14 days, have you travelled outside of Canada AND been advised to quarantine per the [federal quarantine requirements](#)? Yes
No

If "YES" to questions 2, 3, 4 or 5: Stay home + follow Toronto Public Health advice

Developed in accordance with recommendations and instructions issued by the [Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health](#)

[†]Fully vaccinated is defined as an individual ≥ 14 days after receiving their second dose of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine series or their first dose of a one-dose COVID-19 vaccine series.