

HOW TO ATTEND A SERVICE IN PERSON AT CHRIST CHURCH LEYTON

We look forward to welcoming you to Christ Church. This guide explains how to book and attend a service in person and answers frequently asked questions.

PLEASE NOTE: If you or any member of your household develops symptoms (a new continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell) please do not attend the service. You should self-isolate at home immediately with other members of your household.

Booking:

There is limited capacity at each service and so we operate a booking system. Please book tickets by 7.30pm the night before the service via the booking link on our [website](#). If you arrive without tickets, unfortunately we can't guarantee there will be space available. If tickets have run out, please add your name to the waiting list and we will let you know if space becomes available. Alternatively, all our services are live streamed on our [YouTube channel](#).

Children and Youth:

If you are bringing children, please book them their own tickets. There are no creche facilities, but primary-aged children are welcome to join our Spotlight (Sunday School) groups during the service. Teenagers attending youth group do not need to book a ticket as they go straight to their group in the Elm Room rather than joining the main service.

Arrival time:

Please arrive **at least 15 minutes before the service** to allow time for everyone to enter church safely. If there is a queue, please wait outside. There are tape markers on the ground to help with social distancing in the queue.

When you arrive:

Please wear a face mask. You will be met by a steward outside who will check your name off on the booking list. Once inside, please sanitise your hands in the foyer and wait to be seated. A steward will show you to your seat. You will be seated with members of your household (or support bubble) but socially distanced from other groups. Teenagers attending youth group should go straight to the Elm Room via its external entrance rather than coming to the main church door.

The service:

During the service, please join in with prayers and spoken responses, but in line with government guidelines we ask that you don't sing the hymns. The music will be played over the speakers and you may wish to hum along and think about the words of the songs. Primary aged children will go to the Francis Room part way through the service for their Spotlight groups. Apart from this, please try not to move around the building during the service. This will help keep everyone safe and also keep noise that could disrupt the live stream to a minimum.

After the service:

Please remain in your seat until a steward indicates that you may leave. Please remember to keep social distance on your way out. Unfortunately, we are unable to serve refreshments or have a time of socialising in the church after the service.

More questions? Please read our FAQs below before attending.

FAQs – Coming to a Service

What safety measures are in place at church?

We are following all current government and Church of England guidelines and will continue to keep these under review. At present the key changes we have made are as follows:

- Limiting the capacity of each service to ensure social distance can be maintained
- Providing hand sanitising stations and hand washing facilities
- Keeping doors and windows open as much as possible to aid ventilation
- We have put up signs to explain the safety guidance we expect those attending to follow
- Stewards are available to seat people safely and help people maintain social distance
- The building is cleaned after each service.

Do I need to socially distance from people at church?

Yes. To prevent the spread of coronavirus, you should stay apart from others outside your household or support bubble. Please take particular care when arriving and leaving church.

Do I need to wear a mask?

Yes. Within the church building, you must wear a face covering by law. Please put it on before you enter and keep it on until you leave. Please note that according to government guidance, a face visor or shield may be worn *in addition* to a face covering but not instead of one. We have a small stock of disposable masks at the entrance for those who don't have one. You do not need to wear a face covering if you have a valid exemption, such as on medical grounds, as explained in the government's guidance [here](#).

Where can I wash/sanitise my hands?

There are hand sanitiser stations in the foyer. The disabled toilet is available for hand washing.

Will toilets be available?

The disabled toilet is available to use. After use, anti-bacterial wipes are provided for you to clean any surfaces you have touched including the door handle.

Will there be bibles/refreshments/collection?

Church bibles are not available so you may like to bring your own bible. You may also wish to bring a bottle of water with you - useful to prevent tickly throats during the service! – as refreshments will not be served and the kitchen won't be available. There will not be a collection, but donation envelopes can be left in the collection plate in the church lounge. Please speak to our treasurer, Joan Ede, about other ways to donate.

Can I bring my children?

Children are very welcome to any of our services. Teenagers attending youth group during the morning service do not need to book a ticket and should go straight to the Elm Room via the external door. For all other children, please book them a ticket as well as yourself. Our Spotlight Sunday school groups have now restarted during the morning service and all primary aged children are welcome to join in. All our children's and youth groups are run in a covid-safe way, in line with current government guidance. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide a creche at the moment so you may like to bring books or quiet toys to keep younger children occupied. Please ensure that children are supervised at all times and follow appropriate hygiene precautions. As the service is live streamed, please try to keep noise to a minimum.

Can I come to church with other people?

You are welcome to come to any of our services with your household or support bubble. Each household/bubble will be seated as a group. In line with current government regulations, you must not mingle with anyone outside of your household or support bubble when attending church.

Can I chat to people before and after the service?

Mingling with others outside your household/bubble is not permitted. To keep others safe, please don't gather in the church lounge/foyer area or on the pavement before or after the service. You can talk to people on your way in/out and before the service starts, but please remember to keep 2m away from those not in your household.

Can I hug people/shake hands?

Please refrain from hugging or shaking hands and be sure to keep 2m from others. Give them a friendly wave instead!

I'm in a high-risk group for coronavirus. Should I come to church?

The government currently advises clinically extremely vulnerable people to continue to take extra precautions to protect themselves. Please bear this in mind as you think about coming to a service. You are very welcome to attend if you would like to and please be assured that we are taking precautions to help keep everyone safe. If you would like to come but are worried about attending, please contact us through our website.

I'd like to join a service but I don't feel comfortable coming in person.

We live stream all our services on our [YouTube channel](#) so you are welcome to join with us remotely.

What if I can't get a ticket?

Tickets rarely sell out and you can book right up until 7.30pm the night before the service. If no more tickets are available, please add your name to the waiting list and we will let you know if space becomes available.

Why do I need to arrive early?

On arrival everyone will be asked to sanitise their hands and wait to be seated by a steward. This will take time. **Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of the service** so that everyone can be seated safely.

How often is the building cleaned?

The building is cleaned after each service. Particular attention is given to surfaces that are touched often e.g. door handles, switches etc.

What ventilation is there in the building?

All doors and windows will be kept open before and during the service where possible. The doors to the main church will be closed when the service starts to keep noise to a minimum.

What are you doing about Test & Trace?

The names and contact details of those attending each service will be recorded and kept for 21 days to assist with the government's Test & Trace system if required.

Here are some photos to show you what to expect when you come to a service...



A steward will welcome you outside on arrival and check your name off on the booking list.

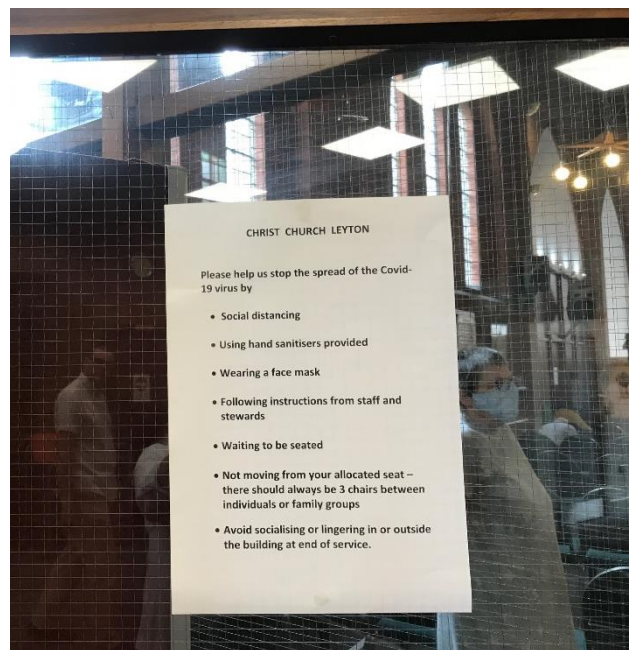
A steward will show you where to sanitise your hands using the hand sanitiser units. These are automatic so you don't need to touch them.



Toilets are available and cleaning wipes are provided to clean surfaces after use



Safety guidance is posted in the church foyer



A steward will show you to your seat and ensure everyone is a safe distance apart.



Everyone must wear a face covering to help keep others safe

