

Information for In-Person Meetings

with stage 3 restrictions

While we would like to be able to gather together like we are used to, church is going to look different as we implement ongoing restrictions. In God's kindness, at this stage we have been spared the full effects of the virus unlike many other places in the world. The current situation could quickly and dramatically change though, so we ask that you be mindful of this as we return to meeting together in person. We want to maximise the number of people who can meet together to worship while also keeping everyone safe.

This document is designed to help you know what to expect (so you can be prepared) and also to help you decide if you can and should join us.

Should you attend in-person?

We believe that it is normal for God's people to want to gather together. Meeting in person is the best way of "encouraging one another... as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:25). Seeing one another regularly helps us build relationships and carry out the Bible's commands to love and serve one another (Galatians 5:13). For these reasons, we would like to encourage you to be present with God's people in person, if at all possible.

Even as we pursue that ideal, we realise that not everyone will be able to be physically present straight away. Not everyone will be able to fit in the building as we comply with current restrictions. Some may not feel comfortable to return at this stage and may take time to make the transition back to in-person gatherings. People over 70, and First Nations people over 50 with a chronic disease are strongly encouraged to exercise judgement and consult their doctor for advice on their specific situation. For these reasons, we will be continuing to live stream our services online for the foreseeable future.

If you display symptoms

To minimise spread, please stay home if you are unwell in any way and join us online.

Symptoms of Coronavirus include:

- Fever
- Coughing
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath

Also see the symptoms information at the end of this document.

If you are displaying symptoms of COVID-19, no matter how mild, call your doctor or 13HEALTH (13 43 25 84) and get tested.

Please also advise the church if you are displaying symptoms, have been in close contact with a person who has COVID-19 or have been tested for COVID-19.

Physical distancing and hygiene

In-person gatherings will look different to what we are used to and are likely to be this way for some time. This will require grace, patience and sacrifice from everyone.

It is a continuing requirement to keep practicing physical distancing and good hygiene. We ask that you practice good hand hygiene by washing or sanitising your hands regularly, minimise touching common surfaces and avoiding physical touch like hugs, kisses and handshakes.

Wherever possible keep at least 1.5 metres away, two big steps, from people you don't live with. This applies before, during and after the service. Please do not congregate around entrances and exits. While, this makes conversations difficult, but remains a government requirement.

We realise that children are not required to practice social distancing in school environments, but please note that no distinction is made between adults and children in the church environment. Children are also required to physically distance from other children as much as possible.

Reserving Your Place

We would like everyone to be able to attend every Sunday, but that is not possible at this time. To help manage the number of people who are present in the building, you will need to fill out the booking process if you would like to attend on Sunday. **This is essential.**

Numbers are limited and will work on a first come, first served basis. We are required to record your name, phone number, email address, and the date and time period of patronage. This information will be kept for 56 days for the purposes of contact tracing. Filling out your information during the booking will help us ensure our information is up-to-date. If your circumstances change and you are unable to attend, please email ben@gracebible.org.au so that we can offer your place to others.

When You Arrive

Please try to arrive well before the beginning of the service so that everyone can be seated before the gathering begins. It is difficult to space out seats after the service has begun.

Maintain a distance of 1.5 metres between groups if you need to wait to enter the building. The Greeter will welcome you, check you into the service and confirm that you are not unwell. Please do not enter the building without being checked-in. Please also sanitise your hands as you enter.

You will be directed to get your own chairs. These will need to be positioned no less than 1.5 metres from any other group not from the same household. This is a distance of three carpet squares. Please also be mindful of sitting in front of the cameras. Wipes are available to wipe down your chair.

While You Are There

Please do not use communal items while at church such as hymn books or Bibles. Try to minimise the amount you need to use the bathrooms and do not forget to wash your hands thoroughly after your visit. Communion will be served in safe manner and be careful to avoid touching items that may be used by someone else. Unfortunately, there will not be any crèche offered at this time and we are not able to provide toys for infants.

Leaving

At the end of the service, all chairs need to be thoroughly wiped down with sanitising wipes. Please wipe over all the parts of the chair that have been touched, including underneath. They then need to be returned to the stack. Sanitise your hands on the way out.

There will not be any morning tea provided after the service. While we wish to encourage people to fellowship, this may be difficult as we continue to maintain a 1.5 metre distance between people not from your own family. A suggestion for continuing fellowship is to arrange to meet others in a park or home.

If you display symptoms on-site

If you display symptoms while you are on site, you will be provided with a mask and will need to be isolate in a room alone or outside. You will then need to go home or to a health facility.

If you test positive to COVID-19

If you are a probable or confirmed case, you must inform the church.

Document Name	Information for In-Person Meetings with stage 3 restrictions				
Policy Date	17 July 2020	Supersedes	1.1	Review Date	24 July 2020
Version	Date	Approved by	Details of Changes		
1.0	3 July 2020	BS	Initial stage 3 requirements		
1.1	10 July 2020	BS	Refinements		
2.0	17 July 2020	BS	Major revision due to updated industry plan		

SYMPTOMS OF novel coronavirus (COVID-19), a cold and the flu



SYMPTOMS	COVID-19 Symptoms range from mild to severe	COLD Gradual onset of symptoms	FLU Abrupt onset of symptoms
 Fever	Common	Rare	Common
 Cough	Common	Common	Common
 Sore throat	Sometimes	Common	Common
 Shortness of breath	Sometimes	No	No
 Fatigue	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common
 Aches and pains	Sometimes	No	Common
 Headaches	Sometimes	Common	Common
 Runny or stuffy nose	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
 Diarrhea	Rare	No	Sometimes especially for children
 Sneezing	No	Common	No

For more information, visit www.health.qld.gov.au/coronavirus

Adapted from material produced by WHO, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.