

REOPENING CITY TEMPLE FOR WORSHIP

The Elders of City Temple have adopted the following policy for the reopening of City Temple for Worship. We have divided it into the personal responsibilities for each person attending and what CT is doing to provide a safe environment. Please understand that no public environment is without some risk of Covid-19 infection.

How You Can Manage the Risk of Covid-19 at CT:

1. Please use all precautions and follow all government guidelines when travelling to and from the CT building for worship.
2. Please bring your own hand sanitiser, face covering and bottled water.
3. Please wash your hands for at least 20 seconds - or use hand sanitiser - immediately upon entering the building.
4. Please follow appropriate physical distancing while in the building.
5. Please follow all posted signs and the one-way system in place.
6. Please do not congregate in the foyer but proceed immediately to the sanctuary after you have washed or sanitised your hands.
7. Please wear a face covering when singing or engaging in extended personal conversation.
8. Please do not speak loudly, sing loudly or shout when in the building.
9. Please use only the toilets at level 1 when in the building.
10. Please remain seated during worship, which reduces the risk of infection.
11. Please do not enter the building if you have any symptoms of any illness (such as cold or flu) or if you have been in physical contact with someone who was ill during the previous 7 days.

How CT Is Managing the Risk of Covid-19:

1. CT will set a limit of 75 people for a worship service using the recommended social distancing. Once attendance exceeds 65 consistently, CT will consider a second service. People with special concerns could sit in the gallery.
2. CT will prop open all doors likely to be used to minimise contact with door handles and similar surfaces.
3. CT will set a one-way system for entering and exiting the building and the sanctuary, and a one-way system for circulating in the sanctuary before and after the services.
4. CT will discourage people from congregating in the lobby and keep the café lounge and prayer room closed during services.
5. CT will ask people to bring their own hand sanitiser to the services and sanitise their hands immediately upon entering the building.
6. CT will ask people who do not have hand sanitiser to wash their hands immediately upon entering the building.
7. CT will provide hand sanitiser at various points in the building, but not so much so as to discourage people from bringing their own.
8. CT will invite people to bring face masks to worship and wear them if they choose to sing during worship and if they choose to engage in extended face-to-face conversations. (The Elders note that facemasks alone do not offer suitable protection from infection or spreading the virus.)

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9. CT will limit the numbers of people in the toilets based on their space, with appropriate signage.
10. CT will require the staff to clean and disinfect high touch surfaces often and all touch surfaces likely to have been used between services.
11. CT will limit the number of people in the lift to one household or two people not from the same household at a time.
12. CT will ask that no person who has any symptoms of illness or no person who has been in contact with someone who was ill during the previous 7 days to enter the building.
13. CT will continue to offer services via Zoom or other suitable format for those unable or unwilling to attend services personally.
14. CT will place suitable signage throughout the open areas of the building and require compliance with these signs.
15. CT will no longer provide Bibles, notice sheets, and other shared materials. CT will not take a physical offering.
16. CT will quarantine the sanctuary (and other rooms used) for 48 hours before & after each Sunday service.
17. CT advises those who are shielding because they are clinically vulnerable and those over 70 not to attend in person.
18. CT will allow keyholders to re-enter the building for personal prayer or service to the church, provided they agree to practice good hygiene and social distancing according to the terms of this policy. In addition, anyone using the building shall agree to clean and disinfect any surfaces they come into contact with, including door handles, tables and toilet facilities immediately prior to leaving the building.
19. CT will not reopen to other churches and groups until such time as the risk of Covid-19 infection has been decreased through UK society to acceptable levels.