

**Linway United Presbyterian Church**  
**Worship Service Policies**  
**Effective March 15, 2022**

As progress continues to be made against the Covid-19 Virus, the Session of Linway United Presbyterian Church has approved the following policies for worship. We thank everyone for their cooperation in following our guidelines as we navigated our way through the pandemic. Much consideration has been given to the recommendations outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Pennsylvania and Allegheny Health Departments. The Session has tried to strike a balance between these recommendations and the comfort level of our parishioners.

All of this is subject to change at any time, without any notice, in an effort to provide for the safety of all individuals. Should the CDC's Covid-19 Community Level in Allegheny County increase from the Low Category, these policies will be re-evaluated and updates will be shared with you as they occur.

**General Guidelines**

1. Linway United Presbyterian Church will continue the 9:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings.
2. We will continue to offer a digital version of the pastor's message for those unable to attend in-person worship.
3. THE MOST CURRENT CDC GUIDELINES WILL BE POSTED AT CHURCH ENTRANCES.
4. The Sanctuary will be cleaned each week and every other pew will be closed-off to provide one empty pew between seated pews. If you are uncomfortable, please stagger your seating for more social distance.
5. For the safety of everyone, if you do not feel well please do not enter the church.
6. We strongly encourage those who have been near someone who has been ill to not enter the church.
7. Should you/a member of your household experience any Covid symptoms or you/a member of your household suspect possible exposure to Covid, THE MOST CURRENT CDC GUIDELINES AT THAT TIME SHOULD BE FOLLOWED.

FOR EXAMPLE, CURRENT GUIDELINES AS OF 3-15-22 ARE:

- a. HAVING COVID SYMPTOMS: DO NOT ENTER LINWAY CHURCH IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING ANY COVID SYMPTOMS UNTIL 5 DAYS AFTER A POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST OR POSSIBLE EXPOSURE TO COVID-19 **AND** YOU ARE SYMPTOM FREE.
- b. POSSIBLE COVID EXPOSURE: DO NOT ENTER LINWAY CHURCH IF YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO SOMEONE WITH A SUSPECTED AND/OR CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19 UNTIL 5 DAYS AFTER THE EXPOSURE **AND** YOU ARE SYMPTOM FREE.
- c. COVID SYMPTOMS: Fever or chills, Cough, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Fatigue, Muscle or body aches, Headache, New loss of taste or smell, Sore throat, Congestion or runny nose, Nausea or vomiting, or Diarrhea

8. Those who are high risk individuals should continue to utilize our digital format.
9. The wearing of masks will follow the CDC's Covid-19 Community Level in Allegheny County:
  - a. LOW (Green) LEVEL – MASK NOT REQUIRED to be worn inside Linway Church, but people may make a personal choice to wear a mask at any time.
  - b. MEDIUM (Yellow) LEVEL – MASK RECOMMENDED TO BE WORN BY HIGH RISK INDIVIDUALS when inside Linway Church.
  - c. HIGH (Orange) LEVEL – MASK REQUIRED to be worn when entering, leaving, or walking about the building, but may be removed once you are seated in a pew. The pastor will remove his mask when speaking from the pulpit. Children age 2 and younger are not required to wear a mask.
10. All are asked to enter and exit through the front door facing Route 30. Those who require the use of the handicap ramp, may feel free to do so. The James Street door, as well as the chairlift, are unavailable at this time.
11. Hand sanitizer will be available for use near the front door and at the handicap ramp entrance.
12. Attendance cards will need to be fully completed each service with name, address, telephone number, and email address in case we need to do contact tracing to notify you of an issue. Completed attendance cards must be placed in the basket as you exit the sanctuary.
13. The only available restrooms are those located by the Sanctuary in the preschool hallway. Please do not use the restrooms in the basement.
14. The water fountains in the building are not currently available to use.
15. The hand fans will be placed in the pews and the electric fans will be placed in the aisles for the summer.

### **During Worship**

1. The offering plates will not be passed. Offerings may be placed in the box in the last pew when you enter or exit the sanctuary.
2. Prepackaged communion cups with a wafer will continue to be used for communion.
3. The choir will resume singing during the 10:30 service, on occasion.
4. Children's Sunday School will be held every week contingent upon the availability of Sunday School teachers and assistants. It will be announced in the bulletin whether or not Sunday School will be held that day. Children and teachers will need to follow the current mask guidelines listed above. Children will be provided their own baggie of supplies (crayons, markers, scissors, glue stick, etc.) which will have their name on for them to use during every Sunday School.
5. The Time With Children will occur on the Sanctuary steps. Children age 2 and older will need to follow the current mask guidelines listed above.
6. The Nursery is open for families to use. If there is more than one family using the Nursery, the mask guidelines listed above will need to be followed.