

Church of St Paul

Safety Protocols

BC Public Health has deemed worship (including gathering for refreshments and fellowship immediately following a worship service) to be a “non-discretionary” service, exempt from the variety of restrictions that are mandated for many gatherings and retail businesses (e.g., masking, social distancing, etc.).

As a congregation, however, we have chosen to ensure that the health and safety of those attending our worship services and/or related fellowship gatherings be made a priority.

To this end, we ask that those attending our services:

- **Be masked at all times inside the church. When speaking to the entire congregation, an individual may remove a mask.**
- **Maintain a minimum 360° 2-metre distance from others when seated or walking past others. This includes entering and exiting the church building.**
- **Place offerings in the receptacle provided at the entrance to the church (an offering plate will not be passed during the service in order to avoid unnecessary contact and the maintenance of distancing).**

For a communion service:

- **The communion elements will be administered in a manner that limits physical contact, both with the elements themselves and between people. 2-metre distancing will be respected. Attentiveness will also be given to the presence of aerosols when planning how to distribute communion.**

When gathering for refreshments and fellowship following a service, we ask that those taking part:

- **Be masked except when eating or drinking**
- **Maintain social distancing and limit movement around the church hall**
- **Not serve themselves but to allow a designated person to serve them.**

May God bless and keep us.