



Emmaus Lutheran Church

2500 S Volusia Ave – Orange City, FL
386.775.9676

September 21, 2020

Dear Emmaus Family,

Grace and peace to you as we celebrate the abundant love God has for us.

We have been separated as a community of faith since before Easter. We long for the fellowship of seeing each other face to face. We suffer when we are apart. We are stronger together.

A team of people have been working here to create an environment of care and safety as we plan for in-person worship again. We are watching infection numbers. The numbers have improved, but still fall short of the desired level for re-gathering. The questions about coming together are many. When is the right time? How shall we proceed? Will we be safe? Will we be back to 'normal'? Will there be singing? The answers to these questions create emotional responses for many.

It has been decided that we will open our doors on Sunday, September 27, for in-person worship. We are proceeding in faith and hope, trusting that God has all things under control.

Worship will be at 10:00 a.m. We will be checking temperatures before entering the church. Seating is limited and ushers will both seat and dismiss worshippers. Singing hymns will come later, as will sharing the peace, passing the offering plate, and coming forward for Communion. The Body of Christ will be distributed as worshippers enter, then to be taken later in the service. The service itself will be abbreviated and there will be no coffee fellowship or gathering either before or after the service.

Three questions will be asked before worshippers may enter: 1) Are you feeling well today? 2) Have you tested positive for COVID-19, or are you waiting for a diagnosis? 3) Have you been in contact with anyone who has COVID-19 in the past two weeks?

Anyone who is not feeling well or is at risk due to contact with COVID-19 is asked to defer attending in-person worship until such time as the risk factor is gone. Also, anyone who is uncomfortable with in-person worship at this time is encouraged to continue to watch our weekly worship on our Emmaus Facebook page or on YouTube (which can be accessed via our website: Emmaus-lutheran.org).

Our Saturday parking lot worship service has a new time: 5:00 p.m.

Also, our Sunday Adult Study has a new time: 11:00 a.m. All are invited to join us for this Zoom Bible Study. No prior Bible experience is needed. To receive the Zoom login information, email your request to sbee47@hotmail.com

A new day has dawned and brings with it a new 'normal'. Let us greet the new day together.

With you all in hope, in love, in prayer,