

What to expect when you come on a Sunday

The Scottish Government has published regulations allowing church services to be in person. The information below answers some questions you may have about what to expect when you come on a Sunday. Church is different because of the Covid regulations but our experience has been very positive nonetheless.

Arriving

Anyone with Covid or who has symptoms associated with Covid illness should not come, nor should anyone who is self-isolating.

On arrival stewards will welcome you. Occasionally there is a short queue outside but often you can go straight in. Please arrive 5-15 minutes before the service starts.

On your way into church you'll be asked to put on your face mask (unless there is a medical reason why you can't wear one) and sanitise your hands. There is a check in desk in the foyer where you register that you are onsite.

Sitting in households

Government guidance requires that we sit in our households, 2m apart from other households. Although this may feel a little strange at first, people who are coming to services find they get used to it quickly. As you come into church another steward will help you find a group of chairs that is the right size for your household

Leaving

We have to ask everyone to leave promptly at the end of the service and we're not allowed to serve tea and coffee. However, there is a short opportunity for conversation in the garden. If you wanted to, so long as you comply with the government guidance for meeting family and friends, you may wish to go for a walk with someone after church, or to go for a coffee together.

Toilets

Toilets are open and you are welcome to use them. They are cleaned after each service.

Children and youth programmes

Children's programmes meet fortnightly at the 9.30am service with groups for 0-P1 meeting in person one week and groups for P2-S3 meeting the alternate week. On weeks where the groups are not onsite they continue on Zoom.

Creating a safe environment

We have worked hard to implement the government's regulations for Chalmers, creating an environment where everyone who is able to come feels safe. This involves scrupulous compliance with health and hygiene protocols, including asking people to wear face coverings and registering their attendance, cleaning the building thoroughly after each service, and asking people to leave promptly and safely at the end of a service.

The maximum number of people who can meet on site for a service is 50 (including children). This is the maximum number for all churches. Social distancing of 2m is also required and is achievable in the Chalmers' building for this number.