

Reopening of Hendon Baptist Church

We are so excited to be reopening and we can't wait to see those who are able to attend. It is so important, though, that we do everything we can to protect ourselves and each other from catching coronavirus. Please carefully read the guidelines below before attending the service and be sure to follow them at all times.

Attending

- You must stay at home if:
 - You have any symptoms of coronavirus (high temperature, persistent dry cough or loss of taste and smell) or have tested positive in the past 7 days.
 - Someone in your household or support bubble has symptoms or has tested positive in the past 14 days
 - You've been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace
- You should stay at home if:
 - You are over 70
 - You or a member of your household is shielding due to a health condition.
 - Government guidelines advise that: "Certain groups of people may be at increased risk of severe disease from COVID-19, including people who are aged 70 or older, regardless of medical conditions. Individuals who fall within this group are advised to stay at home as much as possible and, if they do go out, to take particular care to minimise contact with others outside of their household.
 - Shielded patients are currently advised not to meet more than one person from outside of their own household, and therefore not currently advised to attend places of worship. Those shielding individuals may choose to gather in groups of up to 6 people outdoors and form a support bubble with another household, they will therefore still be advised not to attend places of worship indoors. Advice for both the clinically vulnerable and extremely clinically vulnerable is however advisory and they can choose how to manage their own risks."
 - People in these groups are advised to read the government guidelines and make their own decision about attending.
- We understand that it will be difficult for those who need to stay at home as we all want to be together. However, it is necessary in order to keep us all safe. The service will continue to be streamed on Facebook and our website and other meetings such as Life Groups, Prayer Meetings, Discipleship and Junior Church will continue online.

Arriving

- Please arrive at 10.45am to give us time to seat everyone by 11.00am. There will be no entry after 11.10am. If you arrive after 11.00 please be as quiet as possible as we will be live streaming the service.
- You need to book your seat before the service. This will be on Eventbrite. There will be a limit on seat availability, so it is really important that you turn up if you book a seat or inform us if you cannot make it so we can give your seat to someone else.
- Masks are required – please bring your own. Please contact one of the leadership in advance if this will be a problem for you (for example, due to a disability). Children under 11 do not need to wear masks, as per government guidelines, but they can if they wish to.
- On arrival, please enter by the main entrances on Finchley Lane instead of the side doors on First Avenue. You may need to queue as it will take a while to seat people and there will be a

symptoms check. Please use both entrances and keep 2 metre distance from others while you queue.

- You must sanitise your hands using the hand sanitiser in the entrances.
- The lift is off limits unless you are unable to use the stairs due to mobility problems. Sanitize your hands before and after using the lift. If possible, please let us know in advance if you will need to use the lift so we can give you a seat close to it.
- We will ask for your phone number when you arrive, if we do not already know it. This is to enable us to contact you if someone in the church tests positive for coronavirus within 2 weeks of the service. We will only keep this information for 3 weeks so you will be asked again in the future.
- The ushers will direct you to a specific pew which will be marked with stickers to show you where to sit. You may not sit with anyone outside of your household. Please go straight to your allocated seat.

Toilets

- Please try to use the toilet before you leave the house to avoid needing to use the toilets at church. The service will only be one hour long so if possible, please wait until you get home to use the toilet.
- If you do need to use the toilets, please exit via the main church entrance and enter the toilets via the First Avenue entrance (an usher can direct you). The entrance will be locked after 11.10am so an usher will accompany you to unlock it.
- Only one person is allowed in the toilet at a time. The exception is children under 11 who **must** be accompanied by a parent.
- If you need to queue to use the toilets, please maintain 2 metre distance.
- Please sanitise your hands using the sanitiser provided before entering the toilets.
- Spray the toilet and handle with the sanitising spray provided before and after using the toilet
- Wash your hands thoroughly and dry using paper towel. Dispose of the towel in the pedal bin provided.
- Sanitise again after leaving the toilets.

During the Service

- Please stay in your allocated seat and do not move or turn around to talk to others.
- To ensure good ventilation, both entrance doors will be open throughout the service. In colder weather, please wear warm clothing.
- Please bring a small bottle of hand sanitizer and a pack of clean tissues with you to use during the service if needed. Please take any rubbish home with you if possible.
- There will be no activities for children. You can bring your child but only if you are certain that they will sit quietly with you throughout the service. Children who are likely to cry (resulting in people having to raise their voices to be heard) or get up and walk around should stay at home with a parent. There will be no crèche or Junior Church.
- There will be no refreshments. It is best not to eat during the service but if you need to for medical reasons, please bring your own food and drink and sanitise your hands before eating. Please take any rubbish home with you.
- Hugging, kissing and handshakes with anyone outside of your household are not allowed.

- After the service, we will dismiss you row by row and ask you to leave immediately without staying to chat to each other. Do not congregate outside on the steps or car park.
- Keep a 2 metre distance from people who are not in your household at all times.
- Singing is not allowed but we will play worship songs.
- We will not pass around an offering but there will be offering boxes by both exits for you to place your offering in as you leave. If possible, please give online instead, details are on our website.

If you are uncertain whether you should come to the service, or are worried about any aspect of our reopening please do talk to Pastor Errol or one of the leaders. Let us all pray for the reopening of the church – for wisdom and safety for us all. Let us pray for those who are able to attend and those who are not. Most of all, let's pray that God makes a way for us all to be together soon.

God bless,

Pastor Errol

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