



# Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

... Our Mission: to share God's message, to grow in our faith, to love & serve others.

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May 13, 2020

## URGENT -- Update on Beautiful Savior worship services, safety protocols

Beloved in the Lord,

Psalm 122 begins with the words: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!" Hebrew pilgrims most likely recited these words on their way to Jerusalem or possibly while going up to the Holy City or even ascending the steps of the temple itself.

These words come as beautiful music to our ears as Beautiful Savior has made the decision to return to in-person worship beginning May 24. This is a cause for celebration and joy as we come together face-to-face as the Body of Christ. Yet we must temper our enthusiasm and optimism with caution, care and safety. Beautiful Savior originally planned to offer worship services at 8:30 and 10 a.m. on Sundays along with a 7 p.m. Wednesday service each week. However, it has become apparent that hosting two services on Sunday will challenge us to abide by the North Dakota smart start guidelines and best practices for places of worship provided by the governor's office.

### **IMPORTANT ++ NEW WORSHIP AND SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY TIME ++**

Beginning May 24, we will offer one worship service at 9 a.m. on Sunday and one at 7 p.m. on Wednesday. Please note that services will be limited to 50 people. Please sign up to attend a service by going to our Website at [www.beautifulsaviorfargo.com](http://www.beautifulsaviorfargo.com) and click the worship tab and clicking worship sign up. You may also call the office at 293-1047 to sign up. A return to one service will also mean that we will host a Sunday Bible study via Zoom at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday.

### **ONLINE SERVICES TO CONTINUE**

We will continue to offer our services online and on DVD for those who are vulnerable, sick or not yet ready to worship in person.

### **SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

Please note the following safety protocols we have put in place so that we might honor and keep the fifth commandment to not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body but help and support him in every physical need. The following categories have been established by the governor's office to encourage best practices. The following specific protocols have been put in place by the BSLC council.

### **SOCIAL DISTANCING**

- + We will limit worship service attendance to 50 people until further notice.
- + We will use staggered seating in the sanctuary to ensure proper social distancing.
- + We ask that people would enter the sanctuary no more than 10 minutes before service.

- + We will usher people out of service and ask that people exit the church immediately after service.
- + You may stay to socialize, but please visit outside while observing proper social distancing.
- + No access to the nursery, classrooms, office, fellowship hall or east entrance until further notice.
- + Social distancing helps us to honor and keep the fifth commandment during this pandemic

#### **FACE MASKS**

- + If you are able to cover your face with a mask, please do so.
- + Face masks are designed to help protect others.
- + Pastors will not wear masks during services but will wear them at other times.
- + Wearing face masks helps us to honor and keep the fifth commandment during this pandemic.

#### **WHEN IN DOUBT, STAY HOME**

- + If you are at high risk for possible complications from coronavirus, please stay home.
- + If you have ANY symptoms of coronavirus, however mild, please stay home.
- + Staying at home when appropriate helps us to honor and keep the fifth commandment during this pandemic.

#### **CONTACT FREE**

- + We have eliminated all hand-to-hand items such as bulletins, hymnals and offering plates.
- + Please refrain from shaking hands, hugging or bumping elbows.
- + Please limit time in restrooms and avoid water fountains, coat room and other high contact areas.
- + No access to the nursery, classrooms, office, fellowship hall or east entrance until further notice.
- + Limiting contact helps us to honor and keep the fifth commandment during this pandemic.

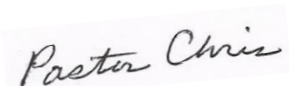
#### **PROPER HYGIENE**

- + Wash hands at home before and after coming to church.
- + Avoid touching your face.
- + Use the hand sanitizer available at the entrance to the sanctuary when entering and leaving church.
- + Proper hygiene helps us to honor and keep the fifth commandment during this pandemic.

#### **CLEAN AND DISINFECT**

- + Volunteers will wipe down door handles and seating before and after worship services.
- + No access to the nursery, classrooms, office, fellowship hall or east entrance until further notice.
- + Cleaning and disinfecting helps us to honor and keep the fifth commandment during this pandemic.

Thank you so much for your understanding and patience as we attempt to return to in-person worship. May God keep you safe, give you His peace and continue to strengthen your knowledge and faith in the certain hope of salvation through Christ, Jesus, our Lord.



Pastor Chris