



**NOTICE TO MEMBERS AND REGULAR ATTENDERS ABOUT COMING BACK
TO RISHTON METHODIST CHURCH TO WORSHIP**

**What you need to do before coming into the church building for worship
what you need to do in terms of worship in the building**

Dear Friends,

*We would like to make sure that you are fully informed as to preparations for the re-opening of Rishton Methodist Church building. Circuit Stewards are following the Methodist and Government guidelines regarding Covid 19 in order to make that happen as safely as we can. **We are aiming to hold the first service of worship back in the building on 11th October, 10.30am.** This depends upon there being no further restrictions regarding meeting in public buildings. Any change to this arrangement will be announced through our church notices, website, email, facebook page or, where necessary, by phone.*

Before you come back to church, the church building will have been deep cleaned and prepared for our gathering. Seating will be set at 2m apart and also in family clusters. Signs and markers will be displayed throughout to remind us how to stay safe whilst in the building. Stewards will be ready to assist us.

To help us with seating arrangements and to maintain a limit of numbers of those attending, you will need to book a seat/s in the church by phone BEFORE Sunday worship.

Please...

1. **Do not come if you are feeling unwell or have been advised by your doctor to self isolate.**
2. **Bring your own hymn book and Bible.**
3. **Bring your own mask (some masks will be available) or a note of exemption from having to wear one.**
4. **Bring your own water or drink if need be. No water or drinks will be served.**
5. **Do not move closer than 2m to anyone else. You may come as a family 'bubble' but will need to stay together throughout.**

What to expect when arriving at Rishton Methodist Church.

1. **Please arrive on time. You may need to briefly queue outside so please be prepared for the weather if need be! We have no shelter to wait beneath. If you are parked in the church car park you will walk down the left side of the building and, if need be, queue along the front of the building (the back entrance will not be open). If you arrive from the front pavement you will queue in a line up to the front door. Priority will be given to those who need assistance from the roadside to the entrance.**
2. **To comply with regulations, all the windows in the building and some doors will be open during worship, so there will be a risk of cold draughts.**
3. **You will be enter (and exit) by the front door only.**

Inside the building.

1. **Please wear your mask.**
2. **On entering the hall there will be a station to sanitise your hands. You may be given a brief temperature test.**
3. **Your name will be recorded as part of the Government's trace and tracking scheme.**
4. **Toilet facilities (including disabled) are available but you will be asked, where possible, to sanitise the toilet, wash basins and taps after use. Paper towels will be used to dry hands not the hand dryers.**
5. **Follow the one way system marked on the floor to the worship area where you will be directed to your seat. You will be seated at 2m space to another person, UNLESS you are sitting with a member of your household. Some seating will be together. Please do not talk loudly to others in the worship area as this increases the risk of transmitting the virus through respiratory droplets**
6. **Worship will take place through readings and prayer and be accompanied by organ or recorded music. There will be no congregational singing. Hymns may be listened to or used in prayer. Worship may be 'live streamed' via Facebook or another internet platform. Please inform us if you do not want to be seen on video.**
7. **Worship will be about 30-40 minutes long. At the end, a steward will indicate when it is your turn to leave. Please sanitise your hands again as you leave. If you need support to walk, you and your family members will be asked to remain where you are until all have left and a steward will guide you through the hall to the outside. Please remember to keep 2m apart from those outside your household bubble as you leave.**
8. **If you begin to feel unwell during your time in the building, please let someone know, and you will be guided to the Vestry for isolation. The necessary PPE will be available. From there you can be collected by a family member.**
9. **CHILDREN ARE WELCOME and will be having their own session with staff outside of the building as "Forest Church", meeting in the school playground. A Risk Assessment has been carried out.**

10. NOTICE SHEETS

We intend to begin issuing a weekly Notice Sheet. Steve Colling will be very happy to receive any items of news of interest as we seek to keep one another informed.

Thank you for your co-operation at this time. We will meet together again and share in worship, for we know our Lord is with us!

Rev Geoff, Deacon Kathy and The Stewards