



Hello Clarkson Baptist Family and Friends,

Thank you for your patience and prayers as myself and the leadership of Clarkson Baptist have been prayerfully seeking practical, Godly wisdom to pursue “Re-Entry” into physically gathering together for worship and fellowship. Our deepest desire is to Love God with all that we are and Love People as His image bearers. As we are striving to accomplish these goals, we desire to keep everyone as safe as possible and to offer encouragement for those who are experiencing fear of any kind. As we move forward, we do ask for your continued patience and cooperation with the leadership and with one another.

On May 9, 2020, our state Leadership submitted “Healthy at Work: Guidelines for Places of Worship” to help give practical advice for churches to “Re-enter” worship service gatherings. While relying on this document, countless articles from the Kentucky Baptist Convention, and Webinars with other lead pastors from different parts of our state. The leadership of Clarkson Baptist Church (Pastor, Strategic Planning, Trustees, and Deacons) have developed a plan to proceed forward with worship gatherings with certain requirements.

We have mapped out our sanctuary to see just how many people we will be able to accommodate during a Worship Service while maintaining social distancing of 6ft. and 33% percent capacity of our sanctuary. We have determined for everyone’s safety and ease of mind that we can accommodate 120 in our sanctuary at one time.

Due to “Healthy at Work: Guidelines for Places of Worship”, your leadership has decided to only have one Worship Service at this time with no Sunday school, no Children’s Hour of Power, no nursery or child care. Due to the vast size of our church from the front door to our sanctuary, it would be too difficult to clean the facility effectively in between multiple service times. Our target date for return to just worship service will be June 7th. Yet, we do ask for your patience as things can change quickly due to the unpredictability of this virus and daily updates from our local, state, and national officials.

In order to help follow “Healthy at Work: Guidelines for Places of Worship” to keep our members safe and ease any fears for others, we are implementing the following expectations and requirement to enter worship service:

1. Limit attendance to 120 people in our sanctuary.
2. Thoroughly clean the entire facility before and after service.
3. Require everyone to wear a mask. (You will need to bring your own mask)
4. Take the temperature of every person attending our services upon entry with a touch-less thermometer. Temperatures of 100.4 or higher will not be allowed to attend worship at this time.

5. Ask everyone, before entering the church, questions related to [COVID-19 Symptoms](#). (If you have any symptoms, you will not be able to enter.)
6. Have people wait in line to be seated, and then usher them to their seats. This is the only way we can maintain the strict 6ft social distancing restriction and provide the most number of people to attend the Worship Service. (You won't be able to sit in your preferred seat.)
7. All exit doors into and out of the sanctuary will remain open at all times.
8. While the two single bathrooms will be open, we strongly encourage people to use their home restrooms before attending. The main bathrooms will be closed.
9. Since it is difficult for someone's health to sing with a mask and such a high percentage of particles remain in the air for over thirty minutes, we will not be singing during this time. Instead, we will encourage a more of reflective style of worship through songs.
10. Will have the opportunity for tithes and offering at the end of the worship service as we are leaving near the exit of the sanctuary. Giving online will be available at anytime.
11. Since we must maintain social distancing of 6ft, we will refrain from shaking hands, hugs, and etc.
12. Hand sanitizing stations will be available in multiple locations.
13. Normal sitting and fellowship areas will be closed at this time.
14. While it will be difficult, do not congregate in the sanctuary, foyer, or car port.

We recognize this is disappointing to you. It is frustrating and disappointing to us too. While we look forward and know there will be a day when we gather together and can fully worship with out any restrictions, we desire to put the well being of others before our desires and preferences. We desire to show love through taking necessary precautions for those who are most vulnerable to this virus and to follow the regulations set by local, state, and federal authorities.

We ask that if you are in the [High Risk Group listed by the CDC](#) to please remain at home at this time. We truly love you and do not want you to risk being infected with this virus. The High Risk group would include and not be limited to people:

- 65 yrs and up
- with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
- with serious heart conditions
- who are immunocompromised
- who are severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher)
- with diabetes
- with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
- with liver disease

While you and your children are very welcome to attend, we also understand that many parents may find it difficult to attend a Worship Service with younger children who are not accustomed to attending Worship Service. We totally understand and would encourage you to do what is best for you and your family.

We will continue to worship together as a family via online through Facebook Live @clarksonbaptist. After our worship service time, we will provide the service on our website at

[www.clarksonbaptist.org](http://www.clarksonbaptist.org) for you to worship at another time. For those that do not have access to our online service or access to the website, we will provide a DVD free of charge upon request. By God's Grace and Strength, we will be back together for corporate worship.

While it is easy to think just of ourselves during this time, Paul tells us in Philippians 2:3-4 (ESV) to, <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,"

There is a tremendous amount of work to finalize our plans for June 7th. Please continue to:

- Join us for worship at 10:30am for online worship at [www.clarksonbaptist.org](http://www.clarksonbaptist.org) or on Facebook @clarksonbaptist.
- Be in community with others through Sunday school / Life Groups via Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Bro. Jason at 270-307-2192.
- Pray with us and share your prayers with us and others at 270-242-4567 or [cbcfamily1@outlook.com](mailto:cbcfamily1@outlook.com) or [jmaccbc@outlook.com](mailto:jmaccbc@outlook.com).
- Minister to others during this pandemic by showing God's love to others.

Finally, we do ask for your patience as things can change quickly due to the unpredictability of this virus and daily updates from our local, state, and national officials. We thank you so much for your prayers and your patience during this difficult time. We know that other churches may "Re-enter" before us. Please know, we are making these decisions based upon creditable sources and what we believe is best for everyone who will be attending.

Your Pastor and Church Leadership.