



# Cranford United Methodist Church

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Dear Partners in Ministry,

We are excited to announce that in-person worship of the Cranford United Methodist Church will resume this Sunday, March 28th @ 10:00AM. Let the “Hosannas” of Palm Sunday ring!

Please read through the attached guidelines from our church’s in-person worship committee that take into account guidance from the CDC, government, and the annual conference for safe meetings. These guidelines are largely the same as our worship guidelines over the Summer and Autumn. A video walkthrough is posted on the church website to help all visualize the worship experience.

In all that we do, we seek to “do no harm,” as outlined in Wesley’s General Rules for living the Christian life. To that end, the services will continue to be available for online viewing. If COVID or the uncertainty of the seasons is a concern, please take advantage of the opportunity to attend online.

We will continue to monitor COVID updates to determine the best way to host worship. It is possible that we may need to change methods quickly based on the spread of the virus and its variants. We thank you for your patience and support as we all navigate these uncertain waters together. If you have had the vaccine (praise the Lord!) we ask that you continue wearing your mask and taking precautions to protect everyone else.

We look forward to worshipping in a socially distant way this Sunday!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Cameron and the In-Person Worship Committee

## Cranford United Methodist Church

### Re-Opening Guidelines –

Following the bishop's guidance to do no harm and to protect the most vulnerable among us, we will err on the side of caution and conduct worship services outdoors for the foreseeable future. **Please come as you are comfortable.**

We will adhere to state laws and CDC guidelines.

### **Phase 1. Worshiping outdoors**

Worship will take place in the church parking lot.

**Please park your car on the side of the parking lot closest to the library.**

The trustees and ushers have designated socially-distanced seating areas for attendees (aka virtual pews.)

#### **What to Bring.**

- Please bring your own chair(s).
- Please wear a mask. Additional masks and hand sanitizer will be available if you forget to bring yours.
- Please print out and bring the Sunday bulletin with you.
- Bibles and hymnals will not be distributed, but you are welcome to bring your own!

Pathways to follow to the seating area will be clearly marked with directional arrows. Please follow the arrows and direction of the ushers. Please follow the guidance of the ushers to ensure the safety of all members of the congregation.

Please maintain a distance of at least 6 feet between groupings, including the space around the perimeter of your virtual pew.

Please welcome each other by offering a sign of peace, but do not shake hands or hug.

Please wear a mask from the moment you leave your car until you return to your car.

**In Case of Rain.** In case rain is expected, check online on the church's website [cranfordumc.com](http://cranfordumc.com) and check your email. If there is a 50% or greater chance of rain, worship outdoors will **not** take place. Worship will continue to be virtual as it has been in the past several weeks. There is no indoor worship planned at this time.

**Restrooms.** We will not be opening the restrooms for routine use. However, the restroom near Room 8 has been sanitized and will be available in case of an emergency. Follow

the arrows on the ground to safely enter and exit the building. Please wash your hands and make use of the sanitizing supplies provided.

Light switches will be disinfected by the ushers when anyone enters the buildings.

Doors to the building will be propped open to avoid touching handles.

The offering plate will not be passed by the ushers. You may place your offering in the plates near the seating area.

Microphones, instruments and equipment will not be shared.

To avoid spreading the virus, the congregation will not be invited to sing.

Please maintain social distancing in all areas.

**Parents, there will be no Sunday school. Please keep your children with you and help them maintain social distancing.** There will occasionally be socially distant Kid's Min events on Sunday morning, such as the Palm Sunday Egg Hunt. Mr. Mike will advise when events are planned.

Please take note of the signage around the buildings which provide hygiene advice and reminders.

If you have traveled outside of NJ to one of the states NJ has deemed a hotspot within the past two weeks, please do not attend unless you have quarantined for 14 days.

Please stay home if you are not feeling well, have been exposed to the coronavirus or have any of the following symptoms:

- A fever of 100 degrees or greater
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Fatigue
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

