

## Adath Jeshurun COVID-19 Guidelines for In-Person Services

Policy updated May 26, 2021

### 1. Purpose

Congregation Adath Jeshurun (AJ) seeks to provide a safe and healthy environment for all guests and staff. By implementing the following policies, the goal is to minimize risk of COVID-19 infection to guests, clergy, staff, and children while at AJ. These policies have been subject to review and acceptance by AJ clergy, lay leadership, and the AJ Reopening Task Force for the purpose of enabling worship services within the synagogue building.

The policies are subject to revision, as needed, as prevailing conditions, and community guidelines, evolve with respect to COVID-19 best practices.

**Everyone is expected to familiarize themselves with, and observe, the following policies.**

### 2. General information

- a. All attendees must be pre-registered for check-in, which will occur in the upstairs lobby of the building. Two designated AJ representatives (greeters) will be responsible for confirming attendees' arrival and performing screening using existing AJ COVID-19 protocol
- b. **All attendees must provide proof that they are fully vaccinated.**
  - i. Per CDC guidelines,<sup>1</sup> being fully vaccinated requires a minimum of two weeks after the second dose of a two-dose vaccine (Pfizer, Moderna) or two weeks after a single dose vaccine (Johnson & Johnson)
- c. Anyone who presents with symptoms of possible COVID-19 will not be admitted to the building
- d. Compliance with COVID-19 screening is mandatory. Screening measures will include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:
  - i. Attendees will be required to submit answers to questions regarding COVID-19 on a screening survey prior to the day of the service. These are intended to promote the personal safety of others in attendance, including AJ clergy and staff, and to enable a system of contact tracing if necessary
- e. Any person failing screening or with symptoms of COVID-19 will not be admitted to the building

### 3. Safety guidelines

- a. Masks
  - i. Per current CDC guidelines, most recently updated May 13, 2021, fully vaccinated people are not required to wear masks indoors.<sup>2</sup> **Accordingly, given that all in attendance for AJ services will be fully vaccinated, masking is not required.**
    - (1) Those who prefer to continue wearing masks are free to do so
- b. General considerations
  - i. Every attendee must
    - (1) use hand sanitizer upon entering the building
    - (2) maintain social distancing (6 feet) in the sanctuary and lobby

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<sup>1</sup>[https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/keythingstoknow.html?s\\_cid=10499:what%20is%20the%20covid%20vaccine:sem.ga:p:RG:GM:gen:PTN:FY21](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/keythingstoknow.html?s_cid=10499:what%20is%20the%20covid%20vaccine:sem.ga:p:RG:GM:gen:PTN:FY21)

<sup>2</sup><https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

- (3) adhere to designated traffic patterns
    - (4) be respectful of AJ's safety rules
  - c. All attendees must remain on the main (upper) level of the building unless they are leaving or entering through the doors of the school wing
  - d. No food or drink may be brought into the sanctuary
    - i. Water fountains will not be available for use
- 4. Hand sanitizer
  - a. Hand sanitizer will be available in the main entry way, the back of the sanctuary and outside the lobby restrooms
  - b. Attendees are **strongly encouraged** to bring and retain their own hand sanitizer for their personal use
  - c. Use of hand sanitizer is required in the following circumstances
    - i. when entering the building
    - ii. when entering the sanctuary
    - iii. when entering, and exiting, the rest rooms
- 5. Services in the sanctuary
  - a. There will be a designated door for entry, and another for exiting, the sanctuary. Those doors will remain open throughout the service
  - b. Attendees are expected to remain in their seats, in the sanctuary, throughout the entire service, with the exception of rest room use
    - i. If an urgency arises requiring an attendee to depart the building temporarily, they must do so through the door designated in section 5.e.i. Re-entry to the building requires use of entry door as indicated in section 5.e.i., and re-application of hand sanitizer
    - ii. **Congregating in the lobby will not be allowed**
  - c. Seating
    - i. Attendees are required to maintain social distancing from those not in their family when seated inside the sanctuary. Seats which are open to attendees will be clearly marked
    - ii. Families that live together may sit together. Otherwise they must observe social distancing requirements, as follows:
      - (1) Each family must remain at least four unoccupied pew seats separate from the next family unit
      - (2) To ensure adequate social distancing, seating will be limited to every third pew, the remainder will be blocked off and unavailable
    - iii. All minors in attendance must be fully vaccinated, accompanied by an adult with whom they reside and must remain with that adult at all times.
  - d. Ritual practice
    - i. Kippot and tallitot
      - (1) Attendees are strongly advised to bring their own kippa and tallit
      - (2) Synagogue kippot and tallitot will not be available
    - ii. Siddurim (prayer books) and chumashim (torah books) are available in the pews
    - iii. No kissing or touching of the sefer torah except as directed by Hazzan Glantz

- e. Egress
  - i. At the conclusion of services, attendees will leave through the designated door, without shaking hands, and will not congregate inside the building
  - ii. Attendees will depart one family unit at a time. The order of departure of attendees will be specified by ushers
- 6. Restroom use
  - a. The entry doors to the upstairs lobby restrooms will be propped open and are not to be closed
    - i. Restrooms in the lower level of the building are not to be used
  - b. Entry is limited to one person at a time
  - c. Hand sanitizer use is mandatory prior to entering, and upon leaving the restroom
  - d. Hand sanitizer station will be available outside the restroom
- 7. Personal belongings
  - a. The coatroom will be closed
  - b. Attendees are expected to keep all personal belongings with them
- 8. Reporting COVID-19 to AJ
  - a. **Attendees must report to Amy Devine-Stretch, AJ Office Manager, if any attendee(s) test(s) positive for COVID-19 within fourteen (14) days subsequent to the event at AJ**
- 9. Concluding statement

Thank you for taking the time to read this document and your willingness to comply with it for the common good. These policies were compiled using the most current guidance and practices from the CDC, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Montgomery County, and various regional synagogues, and may be subject to change as revised guidelines become available.

10. Acknowledgment and acceptance by family

We acknowledge receipt of a copy of the COVID-19 guidelines issued by Congregation Adath Jeshurun. We have read and agree to abide by the policies and procedures set forth therein. If there is any provision that we do not understand, we will seek clarification. We have provided a copy of the protocols and screening questions to our attendees and will ask all attendees to bring the signed screening questions with them to AJ on the day of the bar/bat mitzvah

Acknowledged this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

By (signature): \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

By (signature): \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_