



BIG CHURCH, little church

Meeting face-to-face for Sunday worship

When we're allowed to hold services in our church building again for limited numbers, we'll think of ourselves as **BIG CHURCH, little church...**

One BIG CHURCH



- Even though we can't all gather in the same physical place, we remain one **BIG CHURCH**, with over 100 of us meeting each week for our online service, HTH Sunday Live. We're still the HTH family.
- Lots of people contribute to HTH Sunday Live. Thank you if you have already done so – please think about how you might be able to contribute in the coming weeks.
- One day we will do **BIG CHURCH** face-to-face again but, certainly until January 2021, we'll continue to be **BIG CHURCH** online, with HTH Sunday Live continuing at least until then.

Three little churches



- When government restrictions allow, we'll also have a service in our church building at 4:00 pm each Sunday.
- It'll include communion, bible reading, prayers and recorded music and will be about 40 minutes long.
- Our Covid-secure risk assessment has confirmed that we can safely accommodate up to 45 people so we're creating three **little churches** and we'll invite everyone to one service a month.
- On the fourth Sunday of each month our service will have a theme especially for younger children (up to Year 6) and their families.

Which service we'll invite you to depends on whether you, or anyone in your household, is in a small group or not.

	Small Group	Not in a small group	Invited for
Little Church 1	Evergreens, The Burts, One World, Just Friday	Surname A – G	1 st Sunday of month
Little Church 2	Rockbadgers, Hawkyard Hillside, TROGS, Koinonia	Surname H – Q	2 nd Sunday of month
Little Church 3	Honking Geese, The Hurd, New Beginnings, Day Time Group	Surname R – Z	3 rd Sunday of month
Families Service	Families with children up to Year 6 (sitting in household groups)		4 th Sunday of month

If you can't access HTH Sunday Live, you can come every week. Visitors can also come any week.

You'll find the answers to some of the questions you may have on the next page. I look forward to seeing you at one of our new 4:00 pm services. Thank you for working with us as we ensure all that we do is safe and to the glory of God.

James GIBSON
09/10/20

Answers to questions about our 4:00 pm little church service

What will happen when I arrive?

We need everyone to follow these instructions:

- As you arrive at the front door you must be wearing a face covering (which you will have to keep on for the whole service).
- Keep a safe distance from other household groups.
- Sanitize your hands as you come in (bring your own or use ours).
- Use your phone to scan the NHS Track and Trace QR code displayed. If you can't do this, please fill in the card you'll find under your seat.
- Go straight to the worship space and sit down (without stopping to admire the newly decorated coffee lounge). There will be single seats, pairs and a few triples for household groups of different sizes (if you are a group of four or more, a welcomer will help you move some chairs).

What will the service be like?

We will share:

- spoken worship, bible reading, prayers, recorded music (sorry, we're not allowed to sing), and
- communion, which the service leader will bring to you.

What happens at the end of the service?

Please:

- drop the track and trace card and pens (used or unused) in the bucket provided, and
- leave without stopping to chat to others.

What about our children and young people?

- Children and young people will be very welcome on the first three Sundays of the month although there will be no specific activities for them. Once a month we will have a special service for families with children up to Year 6.
- Children need to stay with their household group – no running around (applies to adults as well).

What are you doing to ensure that the church building is a safe place?

Everything we're organising has been 'Covid-secure' risk assessed and we're following Church of England guidance on holding services. We need to you follow the instructions so we can worship together safely, give glory to God and share the good news of the gospel with others.

To keep the building safe we are also:

- cleaning the church building EVERY DAY (chairs, toilets, door handles and surfaces), and
- marking out of bounds areas with tape.

Can I drive to the service?

Yes. The resurfacing will be completed by 11 October. Please park in the main carparks. Only drive to the front door if you are disabled (there are three disabled parking spaces there) or dropping someone off (after which, please go and park in the main carparks).

Will the toilets be open?

Yes. But please only use them if you have to as we cannot clean them between each use during the service.

Will the sound and hearing loop systems be used?

Yes.

Why 4:00 pm?

We're not replacing our 9:00 or 10:30 services – this is new. We hope that 4:00 pm will be a time that most people can manage once a month alongside joining HTH Sunday Live. We hope that an afternoon service will also suit those who find it difficult to join a morning service.

How long will you run the 4:00 pm service?

We don't know. We want to be flexible and respond as things change. We may need to adapt the new service after a few months or maybe we'll keep it for a while – we'll have to see. We look forward to the time when we can do **BIG CHURCH** face-to-face again.

Why not have live music?

We want to take small steps and keep things simple. There's a wealth of recorded music available to us and we can use YouTube videos (copyright issues prevent us doing this on HTH Sunday Live because we record those services). We feel that it's not the best use of our resources to ask our musicians to play each week when we can't join in.

How will you control numbers?

We reckon that dividing into three **little churches** will give us enough space each Sunday for those who want to come. But we may have got it wrong and so, if we find that too many people arrive, we hope that regular HTH family members will give up their seats to visitors or anyone who can't access our online service HTH Sunday Live.

If too many people arrive the service leader (that'll be James for the first month or so) will sort it out. We're not having a booking system as this is potentially complicated for those not online who we are trying to prioritise.

What happens if there is a fifth Sunday in the month?

The first such Sunday will be 31 January. We'll see how things go when we've run **little church** for several weeks and then decide.