

# Results

**Survey Name:** TLC Re-Open Survey

**Response Status:** Partial & Completed

**Filter:** None

Aug 10, 2020 1:30:14 PM

## 1. Name - Responses

### Answer

We've chosen to keep the submitted names private.

## 4. I have found meaning and value in online worship at TLC - Comments

### Answer

I prefer in person worship but understand why the church is worshipping online.

During this Covid situation, I have been very pleased with our online worship. Itâs been great! Thank you!

I think it has gone well, but it's hard to replicate in church services.

Very professionally done. Like that it is filmed at TLC. Like the socially distance singers, and everything else about the services

While our online worship is of the highest caliber, it's not the same as being together in the sanctuary. Fellowship in person is still "real" worship.

The online worship has been a very good experience for me. Depending on the circumstances, I may or may not attend worship at our building. I kind of like the idea that as we are scattered, we have a better opportunity to plant seeds of the Gospel in our world.

I just miss being in church every Sunday, along with missing the friendship of others and having a peaceful moment in the week.

It's not quite the same as in person, but it's still Connection.



Would really like in person worship to begin. Online was fine in the beginning, but would really like to come back to the church for services.

The online services have been beautiful and very meaningful

Thanks for the online option, I enjoy the music and worship and its a nice connection to people

Online streaming of worship services has been GREAT! I know it's a lot of work to provide this every week but online worship has been a meaningful alternative, very professional & well done. Brad has done a great job putting it all together.

I definitely prefer in person.

I would if I didn't have a crazy household :)

We thank TLC for the professional, excellent use of technology for keeping members in touch during this time of pandemic. The services have been varied in music and message, well-planned, thought-provoking. We miss the fellowship! Thanks to Brad Nolte for his hard work and expertise!

Worship online is an anchor to Christ each week. It keeps me focused on what is right and good in this world of sin. My faith is strengthened by these worship services.

So grateful for this - especially at this time

I can safely worship at home. I have enjoyed seeing recordings of past music groups included in the services. I will miss playing in the Brass Choir this fall so being able to see past recordings would be special. I believe this might mean something to all of TLC Musicians.

Such quality and meaning in our services! Love that all "normal" elements of worship are included, communion, offering, healing, music

Sometimes it runs too long and I just find I get restless at home. Always like the music.

## 5. How often do you worship online? - Comments

### Answer

This is not much different than in person.

We were doing it weekly in the beginning, it's just harder in the summer now with the kids full of energy and ready to get out and go!

It depends on my schedule - sometimes watch on a week day.

Really appreciated the two synod services. Staff probably felt the same way. I am not sure but guess that online services probably takes more planning and perhaps time than normal services did.

It has been a good experience for me. And the work that Brad and the rest for making it an inspiring experience has been very meaningful.

only when I can't be there in person and of course, during the pandemic.

Only once every couple of months

I often will "attend" worship at times other than 10:00 on Sunday.

Prior to the pandemic we attended church service at TLC regularly but since the closing of the church we have attempted to view it online each week.

again, every week since TLC closed to in-person worship. When TLC was open for worship, I attende every service.

Brad Nolte has done a very fine job of producing each service and the music group is always very good

I am grateful that this option is available. For me, it is important to be able to worship with other people even though we are not together.

We often are at the lake in the summer and we don't have internet there

Some issues some weeks with our connections, but overall we have enjoyed this safe experience .

During COVID-19

The only time I didn't do online was when another church and not ours was being shown.

It may not be at 10:00 on Sunday but usually within a couple of days

Also have enjoyed the daily devotional emails. TLC staff has done a wonderful job of keeping "church" open even though the building is closed. Many creative ways of keeping in touch. I like the socially distant singers! Great children's sermons by Pastor Arthur & Pastor Grace.

We might miss a service occasionally.

For the most part every week. We did travel one sunday and did not have access to services.

Since COVID

I never miss one and often go back to hear certain services again later.

I just need to worshipâ€”I have done so all my life

## 6. If you don't worship online, why? - Responses

### Answer

Difficult to engage and be fully present.

NA

Out of town or no WiFi on a field in the middle of nowhere. Many times I forget because it's not often I am online on Sunday mornings.

Usually up at the lake with no internet

We do.

N/A

Time is not always convenient. do not always have a device available.

At cabin, poor connection.

No internet at the lake

N/A

Hard to keep focused on a video for that long.

I want to be singing in the building

More distracting at home. If I am not working, then I prefer to be outdoors and/or out of the house.

Too chaotic at home.

No reason.

When we're on vacation.

## 7. What do you miss from worshipping in-person at TLC? - Responses

### Answer

Socializing

Seeing people

Fellowship.  
Children's ministry.

I miss the fellowship, the congregational singing, the sound of the choir singing. We are a very musical religion.

Participating live and in person with a large group of people; experiencing the music in person; the shift in mindset that comes from being in a physical place of worship

Community, Seeing friendly faces, togetherness, Sunday school

Being in person with my faith community

People, but this is the new norm and I miss socializing just in general.

interaction with others

It is more personal to worship in person.

I miss singing and listening to all our music ~~in person~~. ie. Our woodwinds group, choirs, bells, preludes, postludes - in other words, I miss everything musical!

Seeing the other parishioners and being able to discuss what is going on.

The social connection, having the musicians together.

Connection

Singing! The sense of being one body in Christ when we are all together. There is an energy from being together.

Seeing and talking with friends and other members. Hearing the choir and other music groups.

The people interaction - Community

The singing together which I understand will not be a part of in-house worship at least for the time being.

Friend

See #4

Personal connection

The familiar faces the music, the "in person" touching during sharing the peace. Actually taking communion with the congregation.

People interaction

The choir and singing.

Singing and social gathering

Interacting with other members

Communion.

A deep sense of community and fellowship

Obviously, the personal connections and music.

Personal contact and conversation.

Fellowship with other people, face to face contact with pastors, music experience.

Greeting people after the service, maybe.

An opportunity to meet and greet other members as well as the TLC staff.

Worshiping as a group, singing hymns together, communion as a group

People, Music

Atmosphere

I miss the personal contact with the community and singing together. Greeting/visiting w/ pastors & members, communion as it used to be offered, healing prayers w/ pastors, TLC's great musicians & instrumentalists, singing hymns, coffee/treats/visiting with members between services, pancake breakfasts, children's messages, noisy offering w/ Sunday School kids, changing paraments, preparing

The same fellowship we experience with members at our TLC golf outings.

The Music

The opportunity to see and greet fellow members

Seeing my friends.

Having communion with the other members

Human interaction and live music

Connecting with people and singing.

Live music and the sound of everyone singing. Face to face connections with members who I don't otherwise see during the week.

Seeing people

The ~~feeling~~ feeling of worshipping with my TLC family in person communion in person

Fellowship with others, in person communion

People connections.

Hearing the various music ensemble Groups. Seeing friends.

Contact with fellow members

Being in the church.  
Seeing people.

Communion, sharing the worship with a community

Communion but we do our best at home. People in general, although we don't really KNOW any people personally.  
Basic human interaction.  
Spirituality, in communing with Christ.  
The calming effect from just being seated in church.  
Music.  
Coffee hour.

Conntact

Socializing. Communion

Interpersonal relations

Hugs and conversations with TLC members and staff

in person atmosphere - seems more meaningful  
social interaction with others

Being in choir  
In person communion

The music, the choir, the Praise and Worship teams music. While the music provided on line is very good it just doesn't have the same feeling sometimes. It's so much better in person like it is at the drive in services. I also miss all my friends and seeing everyone each week.

The fellowship with other members and I really miss the music

The in-person sermons, music, fellowship. Feels like a community.

Seeing people

Being with people and being in our beautiful church.

Seeing people we know.

Miss seeing my friends and having coffee in person. I can do Zoom but do not thoroughly enjoy it. I miss the expressions and body language, but I have participated in FFF Book Club via Zoom.

Miss seeing all our friends again, and just being in God's house of worship.

Being with others - community  
Fellowship  
Being in the sanctuary

Singing

Face to face contact, being with others in worship, communion with others

Communion

The fellowship. I miss seeing people, having conversations, meeting new people coming to worship and especially the music. I miss being a part of the communion ministry.

The in person contact with family and friends . Sharing the peace and communion

Singing, seeing friends, being together to worship

People and live music.

Greeting friends, making new acquaintances, checking in with people. Promoting/sign ups for events, volunteer opportunities, donation opportunities, etc.

Seeing everyone!!

I miss communion. Giving myself communion online is not for me. It is so impersonal.

My parishioners and fellowship.

The warmth of being in church and seeing people that I miss during the week.

People, people, people!  
Friendly and inviting faces.

Personal contact.

Everything.

socializing

We do miss the in-person atmosphere, the feeling of gathering together with like-minded people. Again, we miss the fellowship.

I miss the energy of being together to worship. Since I am alone I do miss the community. I miss singing together and just being together.

I miss the people I don't see around any more. I call people and talk to them trying to keep in touch.

Interacting with church friends

I miss the many friendships I have with TLC people. I am quite isolated so don't get out and about like most of my friends do. I love when people stop by to say hello on our driveway.

The sense of community especially with communion.

visiting with people in person

Hugs, handshakes, high fives, choir singing, congregational singing, bell choirs, brass and Woodwinds playing live. Seeing people's faces after they take communion.

People, community

My friends mostlyj

## 8. What have you valued about worshipping at home virtually? - Responses

### Answer

Communion and sermons

No commute.  
It has been a very good option during Covid.

That you can have a worship service at all. The fact that technology has allowed us to have this available. What a blessing.

The professional quality of the services; the opportunity to worship in any form during the pandemic

Being able to worship at home helps me to feel somewhat connected to our congregation, and I love being able to hear the messages each week - somehow they always end up being what i need to hear.

The convenience, the quality delivery and meaningful worship experience

The services have been very well done.

I feel safe worshipping at home, and everyone is doing such a great job with the online services.

I feel safe at home. I would not feel safe, otherwise.

It doesn't take long to get there, compared to the 15 minute drive to church.

The ability to watch it when we want.

Safe, easy, don't have to leave the house

the quality of the production and the creativity put into making it engaging. Time for children is a special to my family.

Ability to stay in a safe environment and still worship weekly.

Brings a bit of "Normal" to life.

Knowing that I am joining with others who are worshipping in the same way.

Only way to go right now

It is still a connection to our church.

Sense of belonging (even if virtual)

The convenience and sometimes the lack of in-person distractions.

Ability to worship with our church

Not getting my whole family ready and out the door on time.

Staying connected to my faith and TLC when out of town and during the pandemic. Getting my weekly "boost". The opportunity to worship anytime....if we don't tune in on Sunday morning, we can watch the service anytime that fits our schedule.

Seeing the people

Being able to still feel part of TLC, and the routine of our family gathering around the TV on Sunday mornings for worship.

It carries me through this challenging time

Hearing familiar voices sharing the love and grace of God.

Ease of use. Personal Communion with wife.

I don't get distracted by watching people, etc.  
Also convenience.

The ease and convenience of participating in the service.

Flexibility, safety

That we can still meet together and participate in the normalizing activity of worship.

The ability to back up and replay if someone interrupts your attention.

Being part of the Church service.

feeling safe from virus and renewing my faith each week

It's a safe place.

I appreciate the opportunity to watch the services whenever I want and the chance to repeat portions of the service to fully understand what was said.

The ability to receive God's word through readings and sermons. I would not be honest if I didn't say convenience.

Connection to God through the readings, message, and communion. I also enjoy hearing the music.

Most valuable to me are the messages from the pastors supported by music that correlates with the lessons and sermons. Rob continues to pick vocal music that fits the service.

Having it available, I am not as easily distracted.

Being able to stay connect to TLC as a whole

The opportunity to still worship with a full service, being able to take communion.

The videography is fabulous. Feels like you're there. Love the music, message, kids time, all of it. I can sit to church out in my gazebo in my pajamas with a cup of coffee if I want to. Even my neighbors probably hear a bit of the service if I'm outside.

Time flexibility.

See #4 above. I look forward to setting that hour aside for worship.

Still able to connect. Still able to worship.

Really came to appreciate the daily online devotional, and got back in the habit of setting aside time each day for devotions. I hadn't done that for many years. Enjoyed that the messages came from many different people.

Just hearing the message. Good reminders usually something that coincides with what's actually going on in this crazy world. Being able to worship, including communion. Feeling that I am able to see people that I know, and see what they are doing. Still proud that the church is continuing to move forward. Being able to sing at home, without anybody listening.

Convenience, safety

I was surprised at how meaningful it has been. I enjoy the extra hour of sleep as well.

Yes

It still feels very personal to me with a lot of meaning

staying in touch with the Word; have a second option even if not as appealing

The routine, the music, how well the service is put together, the usually inspiring messages.

The time that everyone has put into providing worship service for us on line.

The opportunity to continue the Sunday Worship Service.

NA

Not exposed to covid

It has made me feel connected to my church and that I am not out there alone during these trying times.

Still got a chance to keep up somewhat with what was happening at our church.

Our worship participants are marvelous, and I appreciate not infecting anyone or being infected, so the safety until the vaccine comes out is noteworthy. A appreciate the communion as part of our service, too. The Holy Spirit is keeping us unified and fed.

Hearing the sermons each week, and being connected by computer.

Comfort & flexibility

It does bring faithful meaning to those who like that kind of worship

Hearing the weekly message

Hearing the sermons helps get me through the week. There is so much to pray for right now

It brings the church to me so I don't feel totally separated. I can be a part of singing and listening to others making music.

The message of hope, the feeling of belonging to a family of believers

peaceful, still get to worship in spite of shutdown

The safety of no virus exposure and still feeling a part of TLC. The production of the TLC services has been very well done.

I can go to church anytime (not just at 10am) by watching the recording on YouTube.

Easy and can view at any time.

Worshiping

A connect to the church, the singing every week, and the sermons and the children time is also enjoyable too.

I'll have to think about that one.

Oh, our neighbor (8 years) has spent time with us to get away from his family during COVID. He actually enjoyed online church at our house. Probably because he got a sip of wine....

It's easier for both of us to be involved in the service and we can do it no matter how we're dressed.

Sharing communion and healing w oil

It is comfortable and easy - we hope it doesn't become too easy! Sometimes there are distractions which make it difficult to concentrate.

Staying connected, albeit distally, and knowing that we are worshipping together in a faith community although distant. I appreciate the work that has gone into the services and music.

I enjoy the relaxed atmosphere

Can stay safe and still worship

Great music, quality of the online service, the special music groups

Worshipping while sitting next to my wife. Not having to get up so early on a Sunday. Eating Breakfast while we worship.

It's like breakfast in bed, wonderful! Not rushed, can savor it, can hear everything! See everything! And worship with the whole family!

Just the fact that I am able to worship and feel I am being fed and cared for

**10. Feel free to expand on your feelings regarding the above question: - Responses**

**Answer**

I am not going to attend church until I have had a vaccine. I see no reason to risk my health or the health of others. Our congregation is made up with many seniors so I think we would be irresponsible to put them in danger. This is a tough decision as the church is a business so I understand that.

Given the current state of the pandemic and the necessary restrictions put in place by the state, I think I would find in person worship to be stressful. And perhaps inferior to traditional worship, given the limitations required. I think my worry and anxiety about the potential harm being caused would outweigh any personal benefit

I have a high-risk elderly father who lives alone and I need to see him on a regular basis. This makes it very important to me to do whatever I can to keep my family healthy and not spread anything to him.

I am most concerned about my age.

I realize there must be limits on how many can be in church at one time so social distancing is possible.

I am only interested in the option I checked if we feel we can do so safely. If the State has relaxed guidelines but COVID is still at a high rate in MN, We wouldn't come to in person worship.

I will not attend in person worship until a vaccine is available.

The sense of community is fading fast without being physically together to interact with other people of faith. Online worship is not interactive.

I listened to Dr Michael Osterholm on MN Public Radio this past week. He talks about what needs to be learned and what is known about this virus. Bottom line - being inside with a group of people really increases the potential for transmission.

At my age, I feel that I have to be very careful about being in large groups. I would love to be back in church every Sunday, but until COVID is more under control, I will probably stay at home.

Im not concerned for my immediate family, BUT very concerned about the older Generations; many are regular attendees, are engaged, and feel the need/duty to attend in person. Many would attend in person and take unnecessary risk; they are also likely to push for re-opening. Ironic that they are also at greatest risk- keep them alive

From a Caring Bridge website of a friend: Pray for Wisdom to know when to get back into church, ministry, and social gatherings. As the amazing healing advances, concerns for protection from the covid virus become a higher concern than when we kept Judy fairly isolated. cont.

The church can operate, other churches are open.

I feel our staff and congregants will be very aware of the situation and take precautions so we can continue in person.

Yesterday, it was reported that one asymptomatic man attended church in Ohio. As a result, 91 people tested positive. Just because the state "relaxes the guidelines," doesn't mean it's safe. I'd really hate to see any TLC member get sick as a result of attending worship. Too much unknown, and people aren't as cautious as they think they are.

I am in high risk group for the effects of the virus. I have both heart and lung problems.

I don't think Covid 19 will be fully contained for some time. There are too many people who don't follow guidelines in the community. I don't feel comfortable being indoors with a group now. I honestly don't know when I will feel comfortable.

I would feel more comfortable about in-person worship activities focused around dedicated or defined small groups.

Having singers on the screens instead of in person, humming instead of singing, sitting social distanced from others, muffled hellos through masks, having communion little packets in the pews instead of coming up for communion, will feel weird/awkward. It will not be the type of worship service I remember and love.

We gather with others when we visit the grocery stores, Home Depot, etc. without incident as long as we comply with the directives.

I am without an e-mune system . Therefore I am a high risk to stop the Covid 19.N/A

I will not return until I feel it is completely safe.

Singing of any kind would be disappointing with everyone wearing face masks. Not sure that the quartet singing would be able to happen in front of a sanctuary full of people -- even wonder about the in-person preaching. I have doubts about the quality of the worship experience with the required limitations required including social distance.

Would like more drive up/outside services

Personally, I will stay away until I feel the risk is down significantly. I feel my husband and I are in a higher risk group and am not ready to be in indoor places with groups of people if I can avoid it. I will continue online for the foreseeable future. (May try outdoor sometime, if smaller groups).

Older adults, one with a chronic heart arrhythmia

I feel that the worship experience is what you hear and what is in your heart. I'd rather be safe and keep everyone else safe.

Outdoor worship, not in our cars, is an option. We could sit in "crop circles" to prevent spread of virus. Similar to outdoor Blessing of the Animals services in the past. Of course, this would all depend on the weather.

Most people know how to be safe

The vaccine has to be more than "in production." For me it would have to be proven to be effective. Fortunately, our physician son has worked at least two Ebola epidemics in Africa and is now employed by MN Dept. of Health as an epidemiologist.

Relaxing guidelines has more to do with politics than medicine. I would give them little credence.

I like the outdoors services

Due to my age I feel returning to in building worship not a wise choice

I might not be ready to return right away because of my age, however I don't believe the State of MN should dictate when and how we open. Those who wish to come, can come, the staff returning should be voluntary also....and I realize that simplifies complicated circumstances.

I would love to worship again in the church building but do not feel it is safe to do so at this time.

I am wondering how we would continue to social distance during the Sunday Service as we are not a large church.

High risk group  
Because of age and some health concerns

I may be in the minority, but I'm fine with whatever the survey finds. I will probably not be in the building every week when doors open, even though that is expected on a Sunday. Is it possible to have the online service in real time or slightly delayed?? If people with health issues feel ready to come when they can, that would suit me.

Seeing we are some of the senior members, we are a little hesitant, about in person worshipping. But are anxious when it could happen.

I'm torn between the 2nd & 3rd options. We as a family are interested in physically returning to worship ourselves. However, in understanding the median age of our congregation, that makes me want to say wait for the sake of them, just to be safe(r).

The options don't fit my feelings about returning to worship  
I think limiting the number of worshippers is a possibility  
I don't think we should rush it, but I would participate with a mask and staying socially distant  
The middle options is closest to my feelings

I think you should go by the model St Edwards Catholic church is using. My husband has gone twice now. Being he is 80 I was very concerned, but they seem to be doing it very safely. Signing up, having more services, sitting far apart, communion as you go out the door, no mingling after

I think we could set up worship that would minimize the risk of COVID-19 but I don't think a service like that would be something I would be interested in. I would rather wait until we can add more of the things that are important to me like hugging, singing, etc.

I spend about six months of the year in Florida, and use the online church service there. I do enjoy seeing family and friends in church

I am not able to worship in person until there is a vaccine, no matter how much I miss my TLC family.

I could do an outdoor worship sometimes if there was social distancing and masks

I feel we should not return to in-person worship until the in-person service is better than the on-line version. To me this means live music and singing.

Many members of Lutheran churches in general are older adults who unfortunately are the most vulnerable to COVID. I personally won't return to in-person worship until I feel safe doing so. I can't imagine not being able to sing, which would increase transmission of COVID.

I don't trust that all people wear masks when they should and I have concerns about where others have been and their attitudes regarding this virus.

If people are at higher risk, then they need to take precautions when in space with other people. If people are ill, then COVID has established that those individuals need to remain home and that it is required (not optional) to remain home.

We are concerned due to our age, but young people are at risk also. The design of our church does not seem to be good for preventing transmission of the virus. There are statistics that show that church is one of the more dangerous places for people at this time.

I am not ready yet to go back to church esp since MN numbers are on the rise. I feel at this point that I still need to minimize my risks for responsibilities that I have in my life. I feel that on line, although not as desirable as in person, is still a very meaningful experience and a better option for me at this point.

I am torn knowing that if there was one person who contracted Covid as a result of attending church, I would feel so terrible. Yet I feel it is worth exploring possibility of worship together in the future.

My health situation is high risk; doctors say stay home. The trust level is big for me. Will the church be adequately safe i.e. proper health standards ... for anyone? Will people really abide by masking, distance, no singing rules? Too many are freely living in huge bubbles right now. Can church be safe amidst that? TLC is not a building.

I work at a Catholic Church and I could share our experience regarding return to worship.

I am 62, so not in the safe demographic, and my younger wife is especially anxious about me contracting the Coronavirus.

Church is an elderly community mostly, most vulnerable and the virus spreads like wildfire. Too many happenings of people infecting. Take a look at the ohio church story from last week. One sick man infecting ultimately nearly 100 people from coming to a church service  
And what is TLCs HVAC system like? Hepa filters... and service only 30 mins

I most likely will not return until the counts are way down and/or there is a vaccine. Tough decision but I am in the elderly group.

**11. This survey is geared toward in-person worship. If you have children, is your return contingent on program  
Comments**

**Answer**

Not-knowing what "in-person" would look like yet, it would be hard for me to return unless I knew that there would be safe programming for them, OR that they could join me in church without posing a risk to anyone else.

N/a

I no longer have children at home.  
cont from above:

God hasn't given us a spirit of fear, but of power,love, and a sound mind.  
(2 Timothy 1:7) So we want to walk wisely in that knowledge and

NA

No

Until in-school experiences can demonstrate that it IS safe for children, I don't think TLC should begin programming.

We have no young children.

We don't have children/grandchildren living nearby anymore, but every summer at TLC, there was never a special 'program' for children instead of worship in sanctuary. Our grandchildren sat through the services with us and their parents. When our kids were little, they also attended services with us during summer.

N/A

No kids

No we don't have any young children at home any longer. Not a factor

No children.

No children

Na

N/A

N/A

no comment, no children there

I do worry we are going to lose our children in the church if you don't have some kind of Sunday School, maybe on zoom if it can't be done safely at church. Also could cofirmation kids will need some kids and of connection. Best of luck.

No children

NA

I do co-teach 4-year-olds. I am willing to continue this.

No children.

don't have any children

N/A