



Hebrews 4:12

# SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod | Rev. Jeffrey Proctor

Sunday, June 21, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters at St. Paul Lutheran Church,

On Friday, June 19, 2020, the Phoenix City Council met to render a decision on the use of face masks throughout the City of Phoenix due to the recent increase in COVID-19 cases. The Council established an ordinance that wearing a face mask would be mandatory whenever a person was out in public and appropriate physical distancing could not be maintained. The ordinance included certain religious, medical, and personal exclusions. However, apart from these exclusions, the wearing of face masks is mandatory in the public square.

Your Pastor, Congregational President, and Board of Elders met at 11:00am on Saturday, June 20, 2020 to discuss how St. Paul Lutheran Church should respond to this ordinance. Given the religious exclusion, the Pastor, President, and Elders were unanimous in the following decision:

- 1) Congregants are free to decide for themselves whether or not to wear a face mask during corporate worship, Sunday School, and coffee hour. They should do that which makes them comfortable and keeps them from being distracted during their worship.
- 2) Additionally, our existing procedures concerning the coronavirus still stand (i.e. physical distancing, hand cleansing, fewer communicants at the communion rail, Pastor's hand cleansing after each communion table, etc.)

If you have any questions regarding this decision, please see Pastor Jeff Proctor, President Gary Armstrong, or Head Elder Darrell Ahrens.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Jeff Proctor, Pastor

Gary Armstrong, President

Darrell Ahrens, Elder