

## Statement on Minneapolis Mask Mandate- January 6, 2022

Hope Church Family,

As of Thursday, January 6, 2022, Minneapolis has re-instated its mask requirement. This affects Hope Church as we are located in Minneapolis. The statement from Minneapolis reads as follows:

“Any individual who is over age two and able to medically tolerate a face covering shall be required to cover their nose and mouth with a medical-grade mask or cloth face covering in accordance with CDC guidance when in indoor spaces of public accommodation regardless of vaccination status, except for the purposes of eating and/or drinking.” The mandate does allow musicians and speakers to remain unmasked while leading the service.

We know that for many this is unwelcomed news. We are all tired of the many ways Covid has brought about disruptions. As an Elder Board we ask that out of respect for governing authorities and adherence to Scripture (Romans 13:1-2), as well as concern for others (Philippians 2:3-4), we abide by the mask requirement as we gather for worship, youth and kids activities, and other gatherings at Hope.

We also believe that as Christ followers we are called to put into practice Philippians 2:14-15 which states, "Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world."

In the midst of this change, let's seek to allow Christ to shine through our attitudes. Remember our witness is on display!

Although none of us enjoy wearing masks, we are grateful that we can continue to gather for worship and other weekly activities. We believe God has great ministry opportunities for us in the weeks and months ahead. Let us seek to honor Christ and one another as we continue to gather together and live out our mission which is to *Love God, Love Others, and Make Disciples of Christ.*

Thanks for your participation!

In Christ,

The Hope Elder Board