

Hello Grace Hill Church Family,

As you may have heard, Governor Evers extended a mandate through November 21 requiring the wearing of face masks when indoors at public places. This mandate is for all people 5 years old and up, making exceptions for those unable to wear a mask for health reasons (see Governor Evers mandate [HERE](#)). Children between 2 and 5 are encouraged to wear masks, but are not mandated.

How should we respond? The Elders believe that Romans 13.1-7 and I Peter 2.13-17 make it clear that Christ is honored when we are subject to the earthly rulers He has placed over us, even if the earthly ruler is unjust, as long as in doing so we are not asked to disobey Christ's Teaching. In short, the Elders of GHC encourage you to abide by this mandate for our church gatherings. Our purpose as a church is "to speak and believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ for the joy of all people and for the glory of God". Wearing a mask does not hinder that purpose. We plan to remove our masks when eating (i.e. Communion). Individuals speaking or playing instruments on the platform can do so without masks. All of this is within the parameters of the mandate. For those unable to wear a mask for health reasons, or whose conscience doesn't allow, we ask that you be particularly diligent in social distancing.

We invite you to join us in focusing on "speaking and believing the Gospel of Jesus Christ for the joy of all people and for the glory of God".

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Darrel
Speaking on behalf of the GHC Elders