

UPDATED MESSIAH HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOL (MASKS): On June 21 your church council met and decided on a new health and safety protocol regarding the wearing of masks in the church building. As you're certainly aware, it is still a mixed bag out in the community. If you have need of visiting a doctor, you'll still be wearing a mask during the visit. Colleges and universities are still requiring masks inside of buildings. Stores and other public places are not generally requiring the wearing of masks.

- At Messiah, we will be using a flexible system of mask wearing. Simply put, when Cuyahoga county's risk level is in the green zone, we will not require masks. If the risk level is on the rise, and when it gets into the yellow or orange zone, we will ask folks to wear masks. Anyone who wishes to wear a mask is, of course allowed and encouraged to do so at any time. Also, we would hope that folks would generally practice safe spacing when in worship and when out and about inside the building.
- While earlier during the covid era, an infection would be quite serious, it seems that vaccinations, boosters and newly adopted medical treatments have made the covid virus much less serious. i don't want to downplay any risk, however, as your council, we feel it is time to modify our rubrics regarding our wearing of masks. I've attached the actual text of the protocol to this email.
- We will have a sign posted at the entrances to the building stating the risk level each Sunday. Thanks for your attention to this and, always, I look forward to seeing you at church!

-- Jon Paulus / Council President

Messiah Lutheran Church Health and Safety Protocol Adopted by church council 6/21/2022

The protocol is keyed to Cuyahoga County risk levels which are rated as:
Green (low), Yellow (medium) or Orange (high).

If the risk levels are in the Green zone, and the trend is either steady or downward, masks will be optional.

If the risk levels are in the Green zone, but the trend is rising, all will be requested to wear masks.

If the risk levels are in the Yellow or Orange zones, all will be requested to wear masks.

In all cases, those who wish to wear masks are encouraged to do so at their own discretion.