



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

One West Harker Road | Fort Oglethorpe, GA | 706.866.2521 | www.FPFO.org

December 21, 2020

Dear Saints of God in Christ,

Due the number of households in the congregation that have recovered from the Coronavirus and acknowledging the CDC understanding that re-infection rate is low because of presumed immunity for Covid survivors, Session has revised its policy regarding masking.

Effective January 1, 2021: masking is **required** only in the first morning service to offer maximum safety according to CDC recommendations. However, masks are strongly **recommended** for the second morning service and evening worship.

The reason for this is the nature of our authority as elders. We believe the risk of acquiring or spreading the disease is low for those who have immunity and so we are no longer fully convinced requiring masks in corporate worship here is a *necessary* consequence of the Scripture's commands for those people.

We continue to *recommend* all people wear masks to worship, but we are unwilling to *require* it of all people given the CDC's acknowledgment regarding immunity and low risk of spread for those who have survived Covid.

If you have not recovered from the Coronavirus, been vaccinated, or are otherwise immune-compromised, we *recommend* you attend the first service.

This policy may be revised or altered in order to facilitate congregational meetings or the congregation coming to the Lord's Table together as well as due to factors that emerge at a later time.

Additionally: Session acknowledges it has no authority or desire to require proof of immunity or vaccination to worship with us at First Presbyterian Church.

Thank you for allowing us to minister along with you here and we wish all of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Your Session of Elders,

Ryan Biese,
Pastor

David Bosshardt,
Ruling Elder

Wil Davis,
Ruling Elder

Herman McConathy,
Clerk of Session