

**Dear Chapelites,**

**The only time I will wear a mask - Life Stream - Teach us to Pray - Sunday Schedule - Healthful Choices**

I don't like to wear a mask. It is uncomfortable. It makes my glasses fog up and my contacts dry out. It tugs on my ears. I get winded when I exert myself while wearing one. It makes my mouth and nose itch.



I don't like to wear a mask. I have listened to scientific arguments pro and con, and I am not totally convinced that they are beneficial.

I don't like to wear a mask. Some people won't come to church because not everyone wears a mask. That makes me want to put one on. Some people won't come to church because they are supposed to wear a mask. That makes me want to take mine off.

So I have come to this conclusion: The only time I will wear a mask is when I am around other people. Then I will sacrificially wear it. Then I will gladly wear it.

Be mindful of those around you: Provide hospitality to all—especially those who are needful of masks to be worn. There must be space for them. Be hospitable to those who choose not to wear a mask. There must be space for them. Be especially mindful of the needs of Sunday School classmates.

Be mindful of common spaces like the entryways, the gathering area, and the hall ways. You need to provide safe passage to mask wearers, so it would be good to always mask up in those areas. There really isn't room for social distancing in the hallways. Don't linger there.

The 8:15 outside drive-in service is the safe option. People are in their own family bubbles (cars). Most people feel comfortable to roll down windows and fellowship with neighboring families. We will continue outside as long as I can deal with the weather. We made it to the end of September. My next mental milestone is to make it to Thanksgiving. Then?? We will evaluate week-to-week.

While every church board or committee focuses on their particular task, they always include two topics.

1) Safety protocols. What can we do? What must we do? What activities can we do? What about holiday celebrations? What adjustments will help mitigate the risk? When can we return to our normal seating configuration? What about masks?

We are all adults. Throughout this year, we have all collected information to make the best informed decisions for ourselves and our families. I trust you. I respect you.

Some of us are pretty diligent on mask wearing in church. Some are done with them. Be aware that others have made different decisions that you. We all come together to worship. I generally wear my mask in worship except when I'm up front speaking. I wear it for those who are diligent in mask wearing. I gladly wear it.

We don't want to be that church. We don't want to be the winery. We don't want people to associate "Liberty Chapel" with "super spreaders."

2) We miss people. We miss people who came to church before the shutdown and who are not with us now—either outside or inside. We know there are some who must stay away for health concerns. We respect that and pray for the day we can all be together. We pray that our online option helps you stay connected to the body.

We are concerned that some have fallen out of the habit or have used the virus or face masks as excuses to neglect gathering together. We pray that you will soon return.

We miss people. You are not forgotten. It won't be right until we are all back together again.

To sum it up. I don't like masks, but this is not a time to follow my inner rebel. It is a time to sacrifice for others. The only time I will wear a mask is when I am around other people.

Lord Jesus, keep us growing in discipleship toward Christian maturity. Please, keep us healthy and safe. We also pray that this plague will end soon. Amen!

See you Sunday,  
Pastor Brad

P.S.

### **Live Stream**

Our live stream was interrupted again this week. We have a new idea for a piece of equipment that might help us solve our technical difficulties. "Might" means cross your fingers.

Sunday's service was uploaded early in the afternoon. Here is the link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zqtd5Sk\\_Xjs&t=801s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zqtd5Sk_Xjs&t=801s)

## **Teach us to Pray**

Last Sunday, we started a new six-week teaching series, “Teach Us to Pray”, based on the Lord’s prayer. The disciples knew that Jesus’ wisdom and power came from his prayer life, so they asked him to teach them to pray. We would do well if we tapped into the rich resources of prayer as we connect our hearts with our Father’s heart.

## **Sunday Schedule**

### **Option 1: Drive-in/Outside Worship. (8:15 am)**

Worship in your car or outside on a bag chair or blanket. Tune your FM radio to 90.5. Our broadcast range is limited, so you need to be on the church property to hear.

### **Option 2: Inside Worship. (10:30 am)**

Please observe physically distant seating. Masks are a healthy choice. Parents with small children can stay with them in the family room and watch worship on the TV. While we have overflow options, they have not been used. . .yet. You can worship outside in your car—FM 90.5.

### **Option 3: Worship online Live or Later.**

The service is live streamed at 10:30 am. Liberty Chapel’s YouTube channel is <https://www.youtube.com/c/libertychapelc> You can watch the service on your computer or mobile device live. The service will remain on YouTube so you can watch it later. If the live stream does not work, the service will be uploaded soon after church, and you can watch later.

### **Sunday School (9:15 am)**

Children, sixth grade and younger, must be escorted to and picked up from their classes by a parent or the adult who brought them. Currently, there is no nursery, but if you need this service, please talk with Pastor Brad. Masks are a healthy choice. The Explorers Class meets in Terry Hoffman’s building.

### **Healthful Choices and Risk Mitigation**

If you or someone in your household has a fever, or if you are not feeling well, please do not come to inside worship or Sunday School. Our ability to meet in person depends on our ability to trust one another. Choose the option that is best for you and your family, but continue to worship.