

**Assumption of the Risk and Waiver of Liability Relating to
Coronavirus/COVID-19**

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. **COVID-19 is extremely contagious** and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. As a result, federal, state, and local governments and federal and state health agencies recommend social distancing and have, in many locations, prohibited the congregation of groups of people.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Frederick County, Maryland ("the Church") has put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19. However, despite those measures, the Church **cannot guarantee** that you or your child(ren) will not become infected with COVID-19. Further, **attending the Church could increase** your risk and your child(ren)'s risk of contracting COVID-19.

By signing this agreement, I:

* agree to abide by all procedures put in place by the Church, specifically including but not limited to wearing a face mask while in the Church or on Church property; and

* acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and the fact that risks associated with COVID-19 cannot be totally eliminated; and

* voluntarily assume the risk that my child(ren) and I may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 each time I attend Church and that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and death. I understand that the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 at the Church may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of myself and others, including, but not limited to, Church employees, volunteers, and other worshippers or persons who use the Church facilities.

With full knowledge and understanding of the inherent uncertainty and risks involved, I voluntarily agree to assume all of the foregoing risks and accept sole responsibility for any injury to my child(ren) or myself (including, but not limited to, personal injury, disability, and death), illness, damage, loss, claim, liability, or expense, of any kind, that I or my child(ren) may experience or incur in connection with my child(ren)'s attendance at the Church or participation in Church programming ("Claims").

On my behalf, and on behalf of my children, I hereby knowingly and willingly release, covenant not to sue, discharge, indemnify and hold harmless the Church, its employees, agents, and representatives, of and from the Claims, including all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs or expenses of any kind (including attorney's fees) arising out of or relating thereto.

I understand and agree that this release includes any Claims based on the actions, omissions, or negligence of the Church, its employees, agents, and representatives, whether a COVID-19 infection occurs before, during, or after participation in any Church program.

Signature of Participant/Parent/Guardian

Date

Printed Name(s) of Participant/Parent/Guardian

Address and Phone Number – for contact tracing if necessary

Signature of Witness