

## RECKLESS

Some people have a reckless confidence, Father.

They gather with friends,  
ignore distancing rules,  
neglect washing hands,  
breach self-isolation demands,  
scorn authorities who impose restrictions.  
They have a reckless confidence in science,  
in the strength of their bodies,  
in science's ability to protect them  
and save them.

Christians do it too.

Some hold worship services,  
ignore distancing rules  
neglect washing hands,  
breach self-isolation demands,  
scorn authorities who impose restrictions.  
They have a reckless confidence in you,  
in the strength of their faith,  
in your ability and willingness to protect them  
and save them.

Help me to discern, Father,  
The time for caution,  
And the time for confidence,  
And the danger in arrogance.

But through it all,  
Give me the faith that Martin Luther spoke of—  
A lively, reckless confidence in your grace.

*Then Jesus called the children over to him and said to the disciples, 'Let the little children come to me! Never send them away! For the Kingdom of God belongs to men who have hearts as trusting as these little children's. And anyone who doesn't have their kind of faith will never get within the Kingdom's gates.'* (Luke 18: 16–17, TLB)