

At-Home Virtual Communion

As part of our normal worship practice on the first Sunday of the month, and because we know that Jesus met people where they were and he continues to meet us where we are, our church family will celebrate At-Home Virtual Communion this Sunday.

During our online worship, the pastors will preside over the elements in their respective homes, offering the Invitation to the Lord's Supper, Prayer of Thanksgiving, and the Words of Institution. We are asking that each family then share the Lord's Supper together, using whatever elements you may have available, just as we often do on mission trips. We encourage you to prepare for worship with the following ideas:

- Create a worship space, perhaps at the kitchen table or a coffee table. Feel free to place anything on the table that has special meaning for you, such as a special memento that reminds you of church or witnessing God in the world. Last week in worship, we talked about lighting a candle before worship each week as a reminder that God is with each of us wherever we are, therefore, we are all together through the Spirit.
- Remember how the pastors often say during the Lord's Supper, that Jesus uses ordinary things for extraordinary purposes? Well, this is one of those times that common things can represent God's grace to us. Please do not feel the need to purchase special bread or juice, we do not want to place that burden on you nor is it necessary. Use whatever you have in your home already sliced bread, crackers, cookies, pretzels, any sort of juice, wine, water, or even a coke. You may consider placing the elements in cups and on a plate that is special to you.
- You may designate one person to serve or gather in a circle to pass the elements to one another. As you share the bread, you may say, "The bread of life" or "The body of Christ." As you share the cup, you may say, "The cup of salvation."

As Presbyterians, we believe that the Lord's Supper enacts and seals what the Word proclaims: God's sustaining grace offered to all people. The Lord's Supper is at once God's gift of grace, God's means of grace, and God's call to respond to that grace. Through the Lord's Supper, Jesus Christ nourishes us in righteousness, faithfulness, and discipleship. Through the Lord's Supper, the Holy Spirit renews the Church in its identity and sends the Church to mission in the world. This is what we celebrate when gather around the table – and in these days, though our tables are in many different places, our hearts and lives are bound together through Jesus's great love for each of us and all of us.

If you have any questions about celebrating the Lord's Supper in your home, feel free to reach out to one of the pastors.