

Purpose: The service of communion is a special time in the worship service. Our communion service is open to all in attendance. Communion servers are an extension of the minister and distribute the bread and cup to all and pay special attention to those who may have special needs to allow for their participation. **In addition, the servers have responsibility to bring the sanctuary back in to order following a communion service.**

- Typically nine individuals (four during summer months) do the communion service – two for each aisle and one for the choir (not in summer). Those serving communion often serve as ushers for the service, but this is not a requirement. If you are not serving as an usher during the service, sit anywhere you can get ready with ease.
- Some members may require a larger cup to hold. If you have been alerted to the need you can find a large cup (such as those used to serve the lemonade) and extra grape juice on the shelf behind the lemonade table. It is convenient to take the cup forward with you as you move to the front of sanctuary after the offertory. You will need to be flexible to accommodate for the special needs of members.
- During the Preparatory Hymn, go to the back of the sanctuary. Move to front on the final stanza.
- All servers join the minister around the altar table as the invitation and prayer of confession are spoken. At the minister's direction take the trays and proceed to serve the congregation. Note: Guest ministers may have personal preferences on how communion is served and when working with a minister for the first time it is helpful to confirm the manner in which they will do the communion service.
- When the choir is present, the server on the north serves the choir. Proceed to the choir loft and wait until the choir has finished communion music before passing the plate or tray. Be sure to leave both the bread and the cup for the organist.
- When all are served both in the sanctuary, narthex and choir servers, return to the chancel area to be served by the minister.
- The process is repeated exactly for the distribution of the cup: at the minister's indication.
- The cup will be taken in unison by the congregation.
- After the benediction, help by picking up the empty cups, clearing the table, returning the chairs to the platform, etc. Use the ice cream buckets to collect the cups, discard the leftover juice and bread. One of the servers should volunteer to take the glass cups home to wash and return to church. Plastic cups can be discarded.
- Wash and dry the communion service pieces and store them in their designated places in the sacristy cupboards.