

Dear Church,

As Christians, it ought to be our joy and longing to eat the bread and partake of the cup of the Lord's Supper together as the gathered community of Christ. Ideally communion should be done corporately; however, in these times of COVID-19 and the uncertainty that accompanies it (i.e. when and how we will gather again), we as a church believe that worshiping through the practice of communion could be beneficial, encouraging, and spiritually nourishing, even if done in the confines of our own homes.

Therefore, at the end of our Good Friday services, as we close in worship, we will invite you to share communion together with your families and small gatherings.

Below are some instructions to help prepare and worship through communion:

1) Before our service on Good Friday, prepare some bread in small edible pieces, as well as a few cups of grape juice, and have them nearby; placed on the coffee table or a table.

2) Make an effort to create a sacred space. Perhaps place a small cross, or a candle, to recognize the presence of Christ with you as you partake in the Lord's Supper. Have a bible prepared for scripture reading. (see below)

3) Once Pastor Brad has finished his message, the worship band will play, during which time you will be invited to take communion together. Include as many who are gathered as possible (praying, reading scripture, etc). The following is a possible outline:

Possible Outline for Worship Through Communion

A. Read from 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

B. Say a prayer preparing each gathered for worship through communion.

You can pray the following words, or something similar:

Dear, Jesus.

As we take the bread and the cup, we declare that You are our ultimate sustenance; our fullest hope, joy and peace; regardless of circumstance.

We thank You for Your love, lived out in humility, and leading to a cross.

We thank You that on the cross, You did what we could never do; paid the price for our sin and made a way for us to be in relationship with God the Father.

We know that our Salvation is free, but it did not come cheap.

We remember You're suffering through the taking of communion, but also take heart that you have overcome the world so that we can live in peace.

Because of that, we live with anticipation, knowing that one day we will eat this meal together with You.

Amen

C. After prayer, instruct those gathered to spend a few moments in silence allowing and asking the Spirit of God to counsel and comfort and point out anything in our lives that we may need to submit or confess to Him; in the full knowledge that "If we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive our sins." (1 John 1:9)

D. When each person is ready, and feels lead, they can take the bread and eat, and the cup, and drink.

E. When each person has finished, continue to worship (if the band is still playing or if you feel comfortable singing on your own).

F. Read from Philippians 2:5-11

G. Close by praying the following words, or something similar.

Dear, Jesus.

We thank you for Your humility that compelled You to take on flesh, knowing full well that to do so would mean suffering, and ultimately death.

We thank You for a love that is so strong it pursues us wherever our sin leads us.

We thank You for the identity, the fullness of life, and the ultimate hope that is ours because of the cross; You have given us everything we need by giving all of Yourself.

We face this day and tomorrow with the confidence that the God who began a good work in us, will carry it to completion.

Thank You for this eternal hope.

Amen