

Communion Assistants



The Sacrament of Holy Communion is a special part of our worship together, and your service in assisting with the distribution is a great serving opportunity. There are three parts to your service.

PREPARATION

1. **Plan to arrive at least 30 minutes before the Worship Service begins to make necessary preparations.**
2. Normally the communion trays, flagon (pitcher), and bread tray will be set out for you in the church kitchen. (Communion Ware is found in the Sacristy if it is not on the counter). Fill the flagon (pitcher) with white communion wine (in the gallon jug in the refrigerator).
3. Communion trays: Make sure all the slots of the trays have disposable glasses in them. (There are sleeves of communion glasses in the cabinet to the left of the north sink.) Pour white grape juice in the white, push button filler and fill the 8 glasses that are in the center of each tray. Put two trays together and put the lid on the top. Take these two sets of trays and put them on the tables near the outside aisles at the front of the pews.
4. Put two loaves of bread on the bread tray and put the lid on it. (Bread is located in the north fridge's freezer...you might want to microwave it for 20 seconds to get the thawing process started.)
5. Take the flagon and the bread tray to the back of the church and put them on the window shelf. Cover them with large linen from the sacristy.

Note: Pastor will fill out a diagram designating who will be distributing communion and which side you will be on. This diagram will be in the kitchen near the communion vessels.

DISTRIBUTION DURING WORSHIP

1. Come forward as the congregation sings "Lamb of God" (Hand sanitizer has been placed on the tables with the baskets for the individual used communion cups.)
2. Go to the altar and pick up the communion vessel you will be using. Take your place facing the congregation so you will be ready to begin as soon as worshippers come forward.
3. If you are distributing bread, you may start breaking the loaf before worshippers kneel. I suggest using double pieces. Place the bread in the palm of their hand and say "The body of Christ given for you."

Note: We commune children at a young age, so the way you will know if they commune is they will bring a communion glass. If they do not have a glass you may choose to give them a blessing. Touch their head with the hand you are not using for distribution and say "May God bless you always."

4. If you are distributing the wine, be sure to pick up a purificator (linen), which you can use to wipe the tip of the chalice after each pouring. While you pouring the wine into the individual cup the words "The blood of Christ shed for you" are spoken. If a child or other communicant is

communing with a pre-filled glass, pause and say the same words to them. You will finish at the center of the rail, so go back to the outside of the rail to wait for the next worshipers.

5. When all have communed place your vessels on the altar. Pastor and the person assisting him will commune the other two first, so they need to go to the rail and kneel. A tray with empty glasses will be placed on the Altar, take two (2) glasses to the rail one for you and one for the second group to commune. After you have received the bread and wine, stand and you will then commune the two who have just communed you. They will give you the vessels and kneel, and you commune them. Then place the vessels back on the altar and go back to your seat.
6. Pastor will identify if there are any worshipers needing to commune from their seat. Please follow him to the seated person and commune them.

COMMUNION CLEAN UP

Early Service Assistants

1. Please refill and replace the Elements the flagon and bread trays.
2. Refill the grape juice and glasses and return them to the Altar and window sill in the Sanctuary for the second service.

One service and Late Service Assistants

1. After the worship Service take the baskets holding used communion glasses and dispose of them in the Sacristy wastebasket.
2. Return the baskets to the tables at the center aisle.
3. Take the communion trays to the kitchen to wash and refill the tray slots with disposable communion glasses, place the lids on the tops and take them to the Sacristy. Cover them with the brown cloth.
4. Take the chalices, bread trays, and flagon to the kitchen. Wash them in soapy water, rinse, and dry them. Return them to the sacristy and cover them.
5. Any wine left over may be poured back into the gallon jug, and any bread left over may either be eaten or fed to the birds. (There is no need to dispose it.)
6. Fold up the large linen and return it to the container, and also take the pall (the small rigid chalice cover) and put it back in the container. The purificators will need to be laundered so leave them on the counter in the kitchen.

