

Guide to virtual communion



On Sunday, October 4, 2020 Parkwood held its first virtual communion service when the city, province, country and world were dealing with the COVID pandemic. We've been back "in the pews" for some time now, but continue to encourage our folk worshipping via livestream to partake of the Lord's Supper in their homes and residences or wherever they may be.

At the heart of our celebration is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, in which we commune together with each other and with our Lord Jesus Christ. He instituted the Lord's Supper immediately prior to his crucifixion, to show His followers that He was about to give His body and blood as a sin offering, to provide the ultimate payment for the sins of all who believe. He called upon His followers to share both the staff of life and the fruit of the vine, in remembrance of Him.

We celebrate communion in-house the first Sunday of March, June, October, and December at the morning service, and at the evening service on Maundy Thursday (the evening before Good Friday). We invite our online worshippers who personally profess Jesus Christ to be Saviour and Lord to join us, and during the service to partake in communion.

In preparation for this, we invite you in advance to obtain and set aside on a small table a plate or dish on which you can place a piece of bread, bun, or biscuit. If you are alone, the piece may be small; if you worship as a family or household, large enough to break into pieces such that each one participating may have a small piece. Similarly, we invite you to have on hand a small glass or cup filled with grape juice or wine; again, if you are two or more together, have sufficient glasses or cups so that each may have one.

We encourage you if necessary to acquire the items and prepare them ahead of the beginning of the worship service.

When conducting worship, after the usual scripture readings and meditation or sermon, the minister will lead in a prayer of consecration of "the elements of bread and wine" and then invite all to share in making a common confession of faith, using the words of The Apostles' Creed, appended below. After this, all who are connected will be invited to partake in communion together, each in his or her own place.

We pray that this virtual communion service will prove a blessing. Please feel free to contact the pastor or one of the elders in advance if you have any questions. May the Holy Spirit strengthen the bonds that unite us in Christ. Also, please let the office know of your participation, by phone at 613-225-6648 or by e-mail to office@parkwoodchurch.ca, including the names of those who participated and the date of the service.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.