

Communion Delivery

During the COVID-19 pandemic, on a Sunday before a communion service, Pastor Ben will bless the communion elements to be delivered. We will have volunteers doing a no-touch delivery of the blessed elements at least three days prior to the communion service (generally on the Tuesday and Wednesday beforehand). On the communion Sunday, you can either partake of communion at home using those elements; or, if we are having in-person worship, bring those elements with you to the church sanctuary the day of communion.

Communion Instructions

- + We use pre-filled communion cups.
- + The Pastor will consecrate those elements beforehand (generally during worship the Sunday before).
- + Then volunteers will put those elements into paper bags. (Those bagging will be wearing gloves and masks, check for normal temperature, feeling healthy, keeping at a social distance, and be no more than a dozen people helping at one time).
- + Volunteers will deliver those bags to your front door. (Those delivering will be wearing gloves and masks, check for normal temperature, feeling healthy, and will just be dropping off and walking away, keeping at a social distance - for your protection and theirs).
- + Those bags will be dropped off at least 3 days before the communion service, which is beyond the survivability life of the COVID-19 virus, so you can feel reassured about touching the contents of the bag on the day of communion.
- + On the day of communion, tune into the live stream, phone stream, or zoom, and follow the worship service. The Pastor will then give instructions for the receiving of communion, for us all to consume of it at the same time. And, therefore even when physically apart due to social distancing, we will be able to be together in that moment as one through the sacrament of communion.
If we are offering in-person worship on that day, bring those communion cups with you, and the Pastor will instruct the congregation on when to consume them during worship. If you forget to bring your cup along or if one was not delivered to you, we plan to have a limited number of extra cups on hand in the sanctuary.

Helping With Communion

To make this work we need your help:

- (1) Please contact the office at office@sprucc.org (or call 610-621-5770) at least a week in advance with the total number of people in your household who would like to take communion (send that email today, before you forget). For example, if you are a member of St. Paul's and your spouse is a member of another church, we will bring you two cups, if you request it. If we do not hear from you, we will base our delivery on the information we have in the latest church directory.
- (2) We need volunteers to help fill the bags. If you would be willing to help, please email or call the church office. We will be doing this with small numbers of volunteers. Usually we do this on Tuesday beginning at 10:00am. Contact the church office or check the website to confirm the day and time of packing. Please contact the church office to sign up to help.
- (3) We need volunteers to help deliver the bags. If you would be willing to help, please email or call the church office. Again, not to worry, you will be making zero contact with the people to whom you are delivering. Usually we do this on Tuesday beginning at 12:00noon (after the 10:00am packing) and on Wednesday beginning at 10:00am. Contact the church office or check the website to confirm the day and time. Please contact the church office to sign up to help.
- (4) Yes, visitors, too!
For those who visit with us regularly or semi-regularly, please be sure to contact the office to let us know of your interest and total number in your household who would like to take communion. We very much want to include you, and we do not wish to accidentally overlook you. Our records are less-complete for those not on our confirmed membership list, so please, please email or call the church with the number needed for you. Do not assume we know, please contact us and confirm your interest and number.
- (5) Extending the Invitation - possibly - but limited quantities
Each month we order additional cups. If you have a friend, family member, co-worker, neighbor, or social distancing buddy living in the community who you know would like to receive communion in this way, confirm that with them first, and then email the church office with: their name; address; phone number; and number of cups needed. We may or may not be able to meet that need, as we have a limited supply of additional cups, but we need know that need exists in order for us to try to meet that need. Our ability to meet that need will depend upon: (a) how many volunteers we have help bag and deliver; and (b) the total number of people who are interested in receiving, as we have a limited supply (let us know soon, as we will do that on a first come basis).

We will strive to do our best to make sure all that would like communion will receive it, but we need your help in the above ways to enable that to happen.

If you are in anyway able to help with this, please contact the church office. We would rather have too many helpers and need to turn people away, then not have enough volunteers to get this done in the few short days we have to pack and deliver. Please contact the church office at office@sprucc.org or 610-621-5770 with your willingness to help or if you have any questions.