

Communion Guidelines for Serving Elders

Participants:

Four elders (active or inactive) are needed to serve Communion. The “serving elders” who signed up for the month for the juice and the bread shall bring one half loaf of bread cubed, one unbroken pita bread or roll, and one bottle of grape juice for each service at which they are to serve.

The four “serving elders” are responsible for seeing that all elements are ready and in place by 10:30 a.m. and to meet with Pastor for prayer.

Elements:

- 1 flagon filled with grape juice
- 1 silver chalice (a second chalice is required for Intinction)
- 1 small pita bread or roll on small silver plate – uncovered
- 1 four tiered communion set filled with juice
- 4 silver plates filled with cubed bread and covered with linen.

The “serving elders” shall cover the Communion table with linen (found in choir room along with the napkins).

Service:

The elders should move to the front during the Communion hymn. The elders will receive the elements from the pastor. Those on either end shall serve the choir the organist and the Pastor. They will then join the other two and serve the congregation. The center pair serve the center section and will pass only to the middle of each row. If they finish before the pair serving the sides do they may start to serve the sides from the rear. When all have been served elders return to the front (two via each aisle) and are to be seated. The Pastor will then pass them the elements. The same procedure is to be followed for the juice.

Intinction:

In this ceremony the congregation comes to the front of the Church down the right side of each aisle and goes back the left side. The serving elders should face the back of the Church with the one holding the bread on the left and the one holding the juice on the right. The bread is to be dipped into the chalices.

When you serve the elements you may say: “The bread of life” “The bread of heaven” “Christ’s blood shed for you” “The body of Christ” “The cup of salvation” “The body of Christ broken for you”

Clean Up:

After the service the elders are responsible for washing cups and returning everything to its appropriate place. The cloth and napkins should be examined for stains and taken home to be cleaned if need be. It is the responsibility of the elder in charge of Communion to make sure that linen is cleaned and ironed properly and that the silver is polished.