

## Communion Instructions for May 3, 2020

Many of us associated with Wesley United Methodist Church have missed sharing in Holy Communion during church closings, social separation, and other cautionary actions during this coronavirus pandemic. Due to the extraordinary circumstances in which we find ourselves today, Bishop Bruce Ough of the Dakotas-Minnesota Area of The United Methodist Church has granted permission for pastors to offer online Holy Communion. With that extraordinary permission, we will celebrate Holy Communion this coming Sunday, May 3. There will not be "drive-in" communion as was offered at in April. Rather, Pastor Jerry will offer the prayers of confession and forgiveness, as well as the Great Thanksgiving during the on-line service that begins at 10:30. Then, he and the musicians will receive the elements of communion in a safe manner in the Wesley chancel while you are invited at the same time to share the elements in your own homes.

We encourage you to prepare for the celebration of this sacrament by considering the following suggestions that were offered by Rev. Debra and Gary Ball-Kilbourne for the United Methodist Church in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota:

1. Before the service, read Matthew 26:26-29 and 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 in order to understand why we share in the Lord's Supper.
2. Offer a prayer on behalf of at least one other person.
3. Obtain enough bread and grape juice for you and any others in your household who will be sharing in Holy Communion with you. All you need for each person is one small portion of bread and a small amount of grape juice.
4. Remember that we are observing sheltering-in-place during this emergency, so please do *not* invite anyone outside of your immediate household to join you in your home for communion. However, please *do* invite others, wherever they might be to join us online on May 3rd.