Communion Service

+ Sunday, May 24 @ 1-2PM +

### Beginning with God’s Word

Gathering together during these challenging times requires additional considerations; therefore, as we take our first steps toward reopening we seek God’s grace and turn to His Word as our rule and guide. We look to the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Commandments as we consider any worship activities:

* Third Commandment: Does this activity honor God and facilitate genuine worship?
* Fourth Commandment: Does this activity show proper respect for and obedience to those placed in positions of authority over us, such as the governor, public health officials, and our the Miami County Commissioners?
* Fifth Commandment: Is this activity undertaken with a sincere desire to help our neighbor in every bodily need and to look out for our neighbor, loving our neighbor as ourselves?  Are we showing proper concern for the health and welfare of others?

We recognize the need to seek a balance to the implications of these three commandments as we enter into a time of Confession, Absolution, and Communion. Therefore, as Pastor, I have designed a Brief Service of Confession and Communion. If it is your desire to commune, but you still feel the risk level is too high for your medical situation, we encourage you to remain home and continue to fast from the Lord’s Supper.

### For Your Protection

All communion elements will be prepared in accordance with sanitary guidelines, Pastor will wear a mask while administering communion, and all surfaces used for communion will be wiped down between attendees. Exterior doors will be held open by volunteers in order to eliminate the need for touching door handles. If you find yourself in a high risk category we encourage you NOT to participate in this Service of Confession and Communion. Likewise, we are respectful of those who would choose not to participate.

### Procedure & Participation:

* Individuals/family groups are asked to maintain social distancing (six feet) at all times, including in the parking lot.
* Please arrive anytime between 1 & 2PM and avoid congregating on sidewalks or in parking lots; you may wait in your car or form a line on the sidewalk ensuring social distancing.
* Please touch as few surfaces as possible.
* Participants will wait outside of the north entrance until welcomed into the building by our volunteer.
* Once inside, please proceed to the Narthex and wait until Pastor invites you forward to receive the elements. As you wait, we encourage you to begin a time of reflection and confession as directed by the instructions found on the front screen.
* When prompted by Pastor, enter the sanctuary using the center aisle. At the conclusion of the Service of Confession and Communion, Pastor will dismiss your table. Please leave your cups in the basket provided and exit down the west (new wall side) aisle where a volunteer will hold the exterior door for you as you exit through the west door.
* Please leave immediately. Parking lot conversations are fine*as long as social distancing is maintained*.

### Before Arriving

* Please devote appropriate time to self-examination.
* Please use the bathroom at home before coming. (Currently the bathrooms at church are closed as we cannot ensure they will be sanitized during our time of Communion.)
* Please consider wearing a mask.
* Please exercise good hand washing hygiene before arriving or consider bringing your own gel. (While we do have hand sanitizer available, we cannot guarantee a continual supply.)

### A Final Word

While we support the implementation of these guidelines we also do not intend for them to overshadow in any way the awe and mystery of this, the Lord’s Supper, and the spiritual blessing which it bestows.