

Rationale for Communion Online

Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr. of the Great Plains Conference of the United Methodist Church invited the clergy of that district to join in an online Communion experience. Here is part of the statement the bishop provided:

“Holy Communion is a vital means of God’s grace that cannot be prohibited to those that cannot gather for corporate worship much less come to the Table because local, state, and national leaders have imposed — for valid public health safety reasons — restrictions and bans on group gatherings of more than 10 to 50 people. Our present state of affairs at this time overrides the arguments against online Communion. I believe online Communion to be an indispensable means of grace for our faith communities and, as bishop, I fully support its practice at this time.”

Toward this goal, we at the First United Methodist Church are planning an online Communion as part of the streaming Maundy Thursday service, at 7:00 PM, April 9, 2020 at 1umcm.com.

As we join as a community for online communion, we ask you to have with you:

- 1) **Some form of bread**. The term “bread” covers a wide array of items. Go with the closest thing that you have on hand.
- 2) **Some form of juice** – grape if possible. Again, the term “juice” covers a lot of territory, and go with what you have.