

HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion (the Lord's Supper) is a Sacrament that can be a part of the wedding service. The time for this Sacrament to occur is after the Declaration of Marriage and before the Blessing of the Marriage.

The observance of Holy Communion was given to us by Christ himself in the upper room; he gave the bread and cup to His disciples. With bread and wine, the promises of God are made visible and concrete. All that the life, death, and resurrection of Christ mean is focused in this Sacrament.

Though the waters of baptism, we are born into Christ's family. That family is nourished and sustained at the communion table. Therefore, all who are baptized and being nurtured in the faith of Jesus Christ are invited to come to this table. We are invited to come humbly trusting God's mercy, rejoicing in all God has done for us. Though we are baptized once, Holy Communion renews everything for which our baptism was the sign and seal.

Holy Communion is more than a recalling of events of long ago. In the Sacrament we participate in all that God's coming in Christ means. The power and presence of Christ is a reality in this gathering at His table. We are joined anew to Him who is the source of life. Therefore all who intend to lead a Christian life are invited to receive the bread and cup.

METHODS OF CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION

- Ushers / Groomsmen pass the bread / cup to guests while guests are seated.
- Ushers / Groomsmen escort guests to the altar to receive the bread and cup.
- Intinction: Ushers / Groomsmen escort guests to altar to receive bread that is dipped into the cup.

CONCERNS TO BE CONSIDERED

- **Holy Communion will not be offered to the bride and groom only; an open table is offered at First United Methodist Church, therefore all in attendance must be offered communion.**
- Some guests will not be comfortable participating in Holy Communion.
- Offering Holy Communion will add to the length of the service, depending on the number of guests.