

# Best Practices

06/03/2021

## Step-by-step approach to resuming Communion

We acknowledge communion is a response to God's love through the expression of our faith community. We long to come together to fulfill our spiritual hunger. At the same time, we understand that our normal practice of communion creates situations where physical distancing is difficult which increases the risk of the virus spreading among our most vulnerable members. So we believe the practice of pre-distributed and prepackaged communion is the best solution. We understand the risk tolerance can differ in every locality. So we want to offer some step by step practices as we enter into the post-covid era.

Having the congregation come to the center may increase the risk, so as an alternative the Communion presider (pastor & church leaders) may distribute the elements using the empty pews along the following steps:

**Step 1** - Fully vaccinated pastor/church leader may travel through empty rows and personally hand out prepackaged communion on trays

**Step 2** - Fully vaccinated pastor/church leader may travel through empty rows and personally hand out wafers and individual cups on trays

**Step 3** - Fully vaccinated pastor/church leader may travel through empty rows and personally break bread using gloves or sanitizing their hands, along with individual cups

**Step 4** - Fully vaccinated pastor/church leader may travel through empty rows and personally serve communion through intinction

For churches who want the congregation to come down the center aisle, we ask you to maintain proper social distancing by using the similar step by step approach presented above. All churches may decide how they would like to implement the practice of sharing communion according to their context.

Finally, knowing that many congregations will have members joining worship via the online broadcast, please be mindful that the time we distribute the elements can become a "dead time" on air and it is possible to lose participants. Today we invite you to the Both/And Hybrid worship webinar presented tonight at 6:30 PM, where Jason Moore will present practical ideas to lead worship in a hybrid world. Pre-registration is required [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_0SCq2KdxRjK1MK4g4IEZdg](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0SCq2KdxRjK1MK4g4IEZdg)