



# Longview EPC

*"Coming together to know Christ and make him known"*

## For This Sunday, April 5, 2020

Dear Faith Family,

Communion Sunday is such a special time for us! It's a time not only to remember Christ's death until he comes again, but also to experience his presence with us as we take the bread and juice together. Ordinarily, the sacrament of The Lord's Supper is only practiced together as a church family because it is a family meal and not simply a private matter. The only exception for this is when those who are ill or unable to join us for the worship service are served by the Elders in their homes.

After reviewing the Scriptures and consulting our denominational leaders, Pastor Shelley and I have decided to move forward with a virtual communion service this Sunday. What that means is that we are asking everyone who will be joining us for the virtual service this Sunday to please be prepared with bread and juice that you have set aside for use in the service. We wanted to let you know this far in advance so that you can put bread and juice on your grocery list or order.

What do we mean by "set aside"? Think of it like you would when preparing for a meal with family and friends. You get out the plates for your food and you get out the cups for your drinks. Then you set the table.

In the same way, we are asking you to set the table for the communion service this week. Set aside enough pieces of bread on a plate and enough juice in separate cups for all those who will be receiving communion. Once you have done this, your table is set and you are ready to join us for the communion service.

Looking forward to our virtual worship with you this week, but can't wait until we can take it together in person again!

Gratefully,

Pastor Doug

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

### Invitation

If you are a baptized Christian who actively trusts in Jesus Christ for salvation and are willing to forsake your sin, you are welcome to take communion this morning. If you are wrestling with the claims of Jesus and his place in your life, this time is still for you. Rather than taking the elements, please remain seated and contemplate taking Christ himself. The prayers that follow are supplied for your consideration.

**\*Prayer for Those Searching for Truth** .Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life.Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so.If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an under-standing of you that is coherent, convincing and that leads to the life you promise.Amen.

**\*Prayer of Belief** .Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope.I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord.Amen.

**\*Prayer of Commitment**. Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship through membership in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

\*Prayers from Redeemer Presbyterian Church of New York