

*Protocols and Guidelines for the distribution of Eucharist through Phase III.*

- 1. Proper precautions and all PPE and distancing guidelines should be followed by all in the chain of work. Altar Guild, and all in the chain need to carefully sanitize all surfaces, wash and sanitize hands, wear masks, etc. All linens, including the pall should be cleaned thoroughly after each use and certainly before each use.*
- 2. Everyone in the service, and in the altar party, should always wear masks. Only the one speaking at any time may remove their mask.*
- 3. The Presider alone will set the table. Try to keep all other hands out of this, including any altar assistants. This includes bringing items from the credence table. The Presider should simply go to retrieve all the elements, vessels, etc.*
- 4. Presider should vigorously wash and sanitize hands before the service, and multiple times throughout the service, most especially just before setting the table and beginning the consecration prayer. This should not be ceremonial washing but vigorous washing.*
- 5. In setting the table, the Presider should use the pall to cover all wafers, and only expose the priest host. If you want to use an additional covering you may but at least the pall. The main point here is to stop droplets that may come from the Presider.*
- 6. Priest host will only be touched and consumed by the Presider.*
- 7. No one else should stand near the Presider at the altar.*
- 8. For distribution, the presider will either consume the priest host before distribution or set it aside to consume after all have received.*
- 9. Wafers are then placed at least 6 inches apart in a line around the side and front of the altar. Presider should make every effort not to touch the linen if possible.*
- 10. If there are steps or a concern about accessibility you can consider another table put at floor level upon which the Presider could also place wafers. This could also be used in larger settings to offer multiple access points to communion.*
- 11. After Presider has placed these first wafers on the table, the ushers can begin to allow the congregants to come forward one at a time, all the while keeping social distance. You might consider putting marks with tape on the floor to show six feet distance and offer some guidance.*
- 12. Before approaching the altar EVERY PERSON receiving should sanitize their hands, allowing them to dry, before going forward.*
- 13. Every person should take one wafer, and NOT consume it until back at their seat. At that point they can remove their mask and consume the wafer. If possible, sanitizer could be in every pew or aisle so that people could sanitize after consumption if possible and if desired.*
- 14. You are highly encouraged NOT to use real bread during this time. If you choose to you must follow the above guidelines but can only distribute by putting bread into a dixie cup or similar.*
- 15. There is to be no wine offered to anyone other than the Presider until at least Phase IV. More guidelines will come as we get to that phase.*