



October 5, 2025

World Communion Sunday

On the first Sunday of October, Christians across the globe will gather at tables like the one in your home or the altar at the front of your church to break bread and share the cup. World Communion Sunday may feel like an irrelevant gesture—after all, how can your small congregation in Pennsylvania possibly “taste” its connection to a house church in Kenya or a cathedral in South Korea? Or why would that matter? Well, if Jesus matters, so does that.

The disciples plead with Jesus in today’s gospel from John 17, “Increase our faith!” And Jesus answers with something so small you can lose it in the crease of your hand. Faith, he says, is not about size. It’s about trust. Its acting as if what God promises is already true, even when we can’t see the proof.

That is what World Communion Sunday asks of us. It asks us to trust that the broken loaf on our table is mysteriously linked to the bread broken in every other time zone. It asks us to believe that the cup we sip carries the same mercy that pours out in churches whose languages we cannot speak and whose faces we may never meet.

Like the servants in Jesus’ parable, we do not earn our place at this table. We simply show up, offering what we have, trusting that God is weaving you into something larger than either you or I can measure. In a fractured world where suspicion and violence so easily take root, this day gives us one mustard seed of faith—that Christ is already binding us together.

It is small, yes. But even a seed that small can grow into a table that has no end.

- The Rev. Bill Worley,
PSE Conference Minister



Goodbyes and New Beginnings

When a pastor retires or resigns to move to another setting, we often give churches two to three months' notice. This allows for time to say goodbye and for the church to begin its search for a new pastor. In my experience, those months are some of the hardest for both sides, as the pastor and the church contemplate a future without each other. When I’ve left churches, one of the heartbreaks is not knowing how things will turn out in the lives of people I’ve shepherded for years. In my last church, we had to say our goodbyes via Zoom, which I recorded with their permission. I haven’t looked at it since, only because I don’t have the heart to experience those tears again. I moved away to this state, and we both moved on, building a future without each other.

In less than three months, the Keystone Conference will come into existence, and we will move on from each of our historic conferences. But unlike the separation of pastors and churches, we’ll continue to walk together, and I am grateful that this ending will be different. We will be saying goodbye to our specific structures, certain beloved people in those structures, and particular ways of doing things, but we’ll be beside each other in those goodbyes. And that makes a difference in these next days for those of us with attachments to the past. The other piece of good news is that God will be beside us as well, thanks be to God.

- The Rev. Kevin J. McLemore
Associate Conference Minister for Search & Call



Reserve These Important November Dates on Your Calendar

**Nov. 8—The final meeting of the PSE Conference @ St. Paul’s
Amityville. 1:00—5:00 pm**

**Nov. 22—An online meeting at 9:30 am to approve the 2026 budget
for the Keystone Conferences.**

**For free registrations, go to psec.org, click on the calendar then
click on the appropriate date.**