



What if parents choose to wait to bring their kids for communion?

Your kids are still invited to come to the circle where communion is being served. We recognize that they are a part of the faith community and the Pastoral Care Elders will say a blessing over them.

Will EverGreen Ministries provide instruction in the practice and participation for families?

Several opportunities will be available for families to learn what it means to participate in communion, the historical background and the meaning of the elements of communion. Watch for these opportunities in the bulletin, weekly announcements and ministry newsletters.



Is Profession of Faith no longer required of our Kids?

In baptism we are grafted into Christ and received into the family of faith. In Profession of Faith we come before God and the Church to profess our faith in Christ.

Public Profession of Faith is not commanded in the Bible as a requirement to celebrate the Lord's Supper and should not be looked on as a gateway to communion.

We will continue to teach the text to our kids throughout all of EverGreen's education opportunities. We will also continue to challenge our kids to make public their Profession of Faith.

COMMUNION

AT

EVERGREEN  MINISTRIES

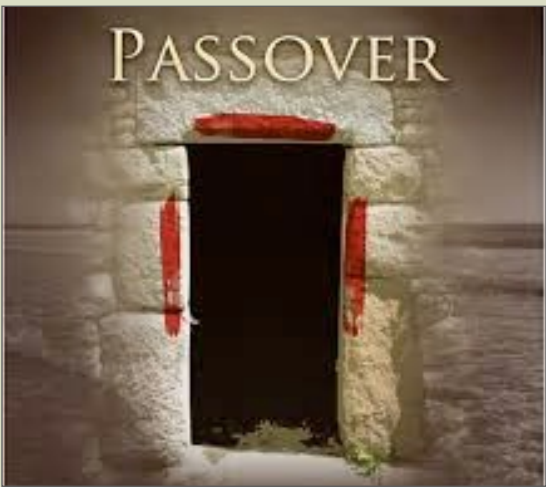


KIDS AT THE LORD'S TABLE

What does EverGreen say about kids at the Lord's Table?

EverGreen Ministries believes that all who have been baptized are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Inside you will read more...



Christian Reformed Synod 2011:

“All baptized members are welcome to the Lord’s Supper for age- and ability-appropriate faith and obedience to biblical commands about participation, under the supervision of the elders. The elders have responsibility to nurture grateful and obedient participation by providing encouragement, instruction, and accountability in the congregation. Requiring a formal public profession of faith prior to participation in the Lord’s Supper is one pastoral approach to consider, but is not required by Scripture...”



God’s Community at the Table

Why the change?

Kids in the Old Testament were part of the faith community and participated in the feasts - including the feast of Passover.

Everyone who is baptized, regardless of age, are members of the Church. Church membership comes upon baptism, not profession of faith.

Communion is a visual that looks back at the Passover feast and sees God’s answer through the work of Jesus Christ and requires our response to God’s call on our lives to become passionate followers.

We are invited to the table because of grace and as members of God’s covenant people. It is through communion that God confirms us in His love and strengthens our faith.

Each is invited to participate in age and ability-appropriate ways.

Jesus has prepared the Sacrament of Communion for everyone who is truly sorry for their sins. All who sincerely believe in Jesus as their Savior and who want to obey him are invited to come to communion. Love, sorrow for sins, belief, growth and obedience look different depending on age and ability.

Are they ready to come to communion?

If your kids are:

- asking questions about communion
- talking more and more about their love for Jesus
- talking about how Jesus loves them, now is a very good time for you to start talking to them about receiving communion.

Your kids don’t need to understand everything there is to know about communion in order to participate. Communion has much less to do with how much they know and understand, and much more to do with God’s grace and love for them.

The Pastoral Care Elders have approved by consensus that baptized kids are welcomed to the Lord’s Table. Therefore, you are encouraged to talk to your kids about their participation in communion, to use the resources that are available and to come as families to communion acknowledging that it is God’s gift of grace to us.

