

COMMUNION AT EAST MOLESEY METHODIST CHURCH

Everyone Welcome

Communion is the simple meal of bread and wine that Jesus gave to his disciples to remember him. A disciple is someone who wants to learn from Jesus. So everyone who wants to learn from Jesus is welcome to receive the bread and wine at these special services. At East Molesey Methodist Church, we celebrate communion once a month. You don't need to be a member of our church or even any church to receive, but you do need to want to follow Jesus and experience more of the love of God in your life.

Meeting with God

Our Sunday services are a time when we meet with others to focus especially on God and to encourage one another in our faith. Someone once said whilst the sun still exists on a cloudy day, we can really feel its power if we use a magnifying glass to set fire to a piece of paper on a very sunny day. God is always there even when we feel that he isn't, but communion is a time to meet with him in an extra special way.

Communion or Blessing

Towards the end of the service, you will have the opportunity to come forward for communion. We invite you to kneel at the communion rail and clearly hold out your hands so that we know that you wish to receive the bread and wine. You may prefer to have a prayer of blessing, rather than receiving communion. This is absolutely fine. Please put your arm across your chest so that we don't embarrass you by trying to give you the bread and wine. If you are not yet ready to receive communion or a prayer of blessing, you are of course free to remain in your seat.

Children and Communion

Children are a key part of God's family. In the Methodist Church, they are very welcome to receive communion. Some churches believe that you have to fully understand before you can receive communion, but do any of us really fully understand God. Children often have a clearer appreciation of God than adults do. Do talk with your children before coming to a communion service and encourage them to respond appropriately either to hold out their hands for communion or to indicate that they want to receive a prayer of blessing as above.

Special needs

If you have a wheat intolerance, please let us know in advance of the Sunday so that wheat-free wafers can be made available for you. The "wine" that we use is alcohol-free. If you are unable to come up to the communion rail, simply let one of the stewards know, and the bread and wine will be brought to you. If you are unable to come to church, arrangements can be made for a communion service to take place for you at home or in hospital.

Becoming a disciple

Taking communion is a sign that you want to explore being a disciple of Jesus. As you make your journey of faith, we encourage you, when you feel ready, to explore baptism (if you have not already been baptised) and church membership as a sign of your commitment to him.

David A. Innes, Minister