With services online and having the opportunity to worship as a family, there may be times that we will do communion as part of our worship service. Some churches come from the tradition of having a formal first communion, however at Door Creek Church, it is up to parents to discern when they feel their child is ready to participate in communion. Here is a guide that can help you have conversations with your child(ren).

Communion is for those who have a personal relationship with God through their faith in Him, having committed their lives to Him because of His Son Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross for their sins. It is something that Christians, or, Christ-followers, do to remember Jesus and His death on the cross on their behalf. In the services, we eat a piece of bread or cracker and drink juice, which symbolize for us the body of Jesus which was broken for us and the blood of Jesus which was shed for us, so that we can be in right standing with God.

If your child has a personal relationship with God, then they are welcome to take communion. We encourage you to talk with them about it before the service and especially after the service.

Below is a simple way of talking about what it means to be a Christ Follower with your child.

Here are some things to keep in mind:

- It’s not about being good enough.
- We are saved by putting our faith in Jesus as our Savior.
- We are not saved by praying a prayer.
- Prayer is simply a way of expressing our trust in Jesus for all He has done on our behalf.

The ABC’s of becoming a Christ Follower

**Admit:** Admit that you are a sinner. (Sin is anything we think, say or do that breaks God’s heart)

*Romans 3:23*

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

**Believe:** Believe that Jesus is God’s son.

*John 3:16*

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

*John 14:6*

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

**Confess:** Confess that Jesus is Lord.

*Romans 10:9-10*

That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
Family Connect

- Review the ABC’s with your child
- Ask questions to determine his/her understanding
  - How do we know that God loves us?
  - What did Jesus do for us?
  - If Jesus is your Lord (king), what do your actions and life look like?
  - Why do you want to follow Jesus?
- Ask your child, “Before today, have you ever asked Jesus to be the leader of your life?”
- If he/she said yes, ask questions about when, where or what his/her understanding is.

If your child indicates that he or she has not made this decision and would like to, feel free to pray with him/her right now. It’s really simple. Pray a short and simple prayer one line at a time and have him/her repeat. It could be as simple as:

“Dear Lord, thank you for what you have done. I admit that I am a sinner. I believe that you are God’s son and that you died for my sins. I confess that you are my Lord and my King. Thank you for leading my life. In Jesus name I pray, amen.”

If your child has prayed this prayer for the first time, congratulations! This marks the beginning of a life-long journey. Luke 15:10 talks about how heaven celebrates when someone comes to Christ!

If your child has already prayed to make Jesus their Lord, talk about what it is like to live a life following Jesus. What is hard about it? What does it look like at home? At school? With friends? Pray together thanking Jesus for being our Lord and making a way to know him.

When we take communion, we are remembering Jesus’ sacrifice that allows us to have a forever relationship with Him. To understand more about the connection of the Lord’s Supper/Communion with Passover, Phil Vischer has a short video that helps connect the symbolism between Passover and the New Covenant that Jesus’ sacrifice brings us.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=utpt5S_bHrs