

Dear Friends in Christ,

September 26, 2017

This Sunday, October 1, is World Communion Sunday.

World Communion Sunday was first celebrated in the Shadyside Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, PA in 1933. At first the idea spread slowly among Presbyterian Churches. It was adopted as a practice for all Presbyterians in 1936. During the WWII, the idea caught on in other denominations and began spreading quickly.

I don't ever remember not celebrating World Communion Sunday on the first Sunday in October. As world events change and crises come and go, the need to experience Holy Communion as that which unifies us with people around the world remains the same.

This coming Sunday will be a time when Christians in every culture break bread and pour the cup to remember and affirm Christ as the Head of the Church and our unity with one another in him. We will remember and celebrate that we are part of the whole body of believers. Whether shared in a grand cathedral, a mud hut, outside on a hilltop, in a meetinghouse, in a storefront, or among the ruins left by natural disasters or war, Christians around the world will proclaim in word and deed that we are one in the Spirit and one in the Lord.

On World Communion Sunday, we remind the world what it often forgets: we have a lot in common. We also show the world what unity across cultures, languages, and time zones looks like.

I invite you to join your fellow Christians around the world in this global witness. See you Sunday.

*Blessings, love and peace,
Betsey*