WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

LITURGY
Nourished for Holy Living

United Methodists join Christians of different traditions to celebrate World Communion Sunday on the first Sunday in October. World Communion Sunday began in 1936 as a way to recognize our ecumenical oneness in Christ and to bring Christians together in a spirit of unity and peace.

In The United Methodist Church, congregations throughout the denomination will also join together to receive a Special Sunday offering that helps students from around the world reach their full potential through scholarships, training and mentoring. The World Communion Sunday offering is one of six churchwide special offerings received throughout the year.

Adapt this liturgy to celebrate World Communion Sunday in your congregation. These prayers blend Scripture passages from Exodus 20 and Psalm 19. For a fully integrated service, coordinate them with the accompanying Offering Talk and Sermon Starter.

INVOCATION
Glorious, liberating God,
Thank you bringing us together on this Sabbath
day to worship you.
Nourish us with your word.
Guide us into holy living with your love.

Fill this space with your grace that is sweeter
than honey

and revive our souls with your laws that are
more desired than gold.
As we celebrate World Communion Sunday,
we rejoice in the ways that your church is
connected
through your son, Jesus Christ.

Bless our special offering today so that the gifts
we present
will be multiplied and shared with faithful students around the world.
As we praise you today, let the words of our mouth and the meditation of our heart be acceptable to you.

Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP
Leader: Our Creator spoke to Moses on the mountain. The Holy One speaks to us today, saying, “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt.”

People: Glorious God, even the firmament proclaims your handiwork.

Leader: The law of God is perfect, reviving the soul.

People: The decrees of God are sure, making the naive wise.

Leader: The precepts of God are right, rejoicing the heart.

People: The commandment of God is clear, enlightening the eyes.

All: Speak to us, and we will listen.

OFFERING DEDICATION
We offer ourselves with a commitment to follow your laws.
We offer our gifts, knowing that all that we have comes from you.
Bless this World Communion Sunday offering as it is multiplied with the gifts of other United Methodist congregations.
Transform these gifts into the manifestation of hopes and dreams for your children.

BENEDICTION
As you go from here, remember the Lord your God has liberated you.
Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you in holy living.
Strengthened and nourished in your identity as a follower of Christ, allow his love to extend to everyone you meet.