

Martin Way Methodist Church

Children at Holy Communion

The Martin Way Methodist Church Council:

1. Believes that the Sacrament of Holy Communion is central to the worshipping life of the local church and, when celebrated, should be an integral part of worship;
2. Thinks it desirable for the whole church family to be present when Holy Communion is celebrated during the main Sunday morning service;
3. Affirms that the Communion bread and wine should normally only be received by baptised Christians, for whom it is an effective sign of God's spiritual nourishment and forgiveness in our discipleship;
4. Accepts that receiving the Communion bread and wine is not principally an intellectual exercise but an act of faith.,
5. Welcomes baptised Christians of whatever age or tradition at the Lord's Table;
6. Invites children at an appropriate age to receive the Communion bread and wine;
7. Recognises that what is an appropriate age will vary from child to child;
8. Invites those for whom it is inappropriate to receive the Communion bread and wine to receive instead a blessing at the communion rail;
9. Directs the Sunday Club staff in consultation with the parents and the minister to provide suitable teaching about participating in the sacrament of Holy Communion;
10. Encourages all baptised Christians to receive the Communion bread and wine frequently as a means of grace.