Greetings to you in the name of Christ!

This Sunday we have the wonderful opportunity to celebrate with all our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world! Today we are celebrating World Communion Sunday! World Communion Sunday first began in the Presbyterian Church in 1936. In 1940, it was adopted by the Federal Council of Churches as a celebration day. The Federal Council of Churches was the predecessor to what is now the National Council of Churches. This council is an organization of church leaders from several Christian denominations working together for unity and ecumenical cooperation. This celebration is a time for churches all over the world to remember our connection to one another in Christ and to pray for greater unity within the church.

The key for all of this lies in communion. The word ‘communion’ means unity and relationship. Therefore, when we participate in the Lord’s Supper, we are uniting ourselves in relationship with believers throughout the world, and throughout time in the body and blood of Christ. As United Methodists, we believe that communion is more than a symbolic act, but rather is a time where we receive God’s grace in an inexplicably tangible way. And it is through this reception of grace that we are bound together with all believers from every place and time. Celebrating World Communion Sunday also reminds us of our responsibility as members of Christ’s body to care for one another in every way that we can.

May we go from the celebration of communion this morning remembering our relationship of unity with our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world!