

## World Communion Sunday Reflections

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Text:

Hebrews 13:1-2

Let mutual love continue. <sup>2</sup>Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

### Reflection

Today, we do something that Christians around the world, and Christians all through time all the way back to Jesus's closest followers, have done. We celebrate Communion. And today is a special Communion Sunday because nearly a hundred years ago, an ecumenical group - a group of multiple kinds of Christians - wanted to celebrate how we are all connected with one another, and they started World Communion Sunday. It started in Pennsylvania - anyone here with Pennsylvania connections?

"World Communion Sunday is a time for remembering that around the globe—in different languages, with different traditions and customs, and in various forms of liturgy—the Lord's Supper is celebrated" (<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/3201/world-communion-sunday-why-we-do-it-and-how>) by Christians and we're all connected.

Cláudio Carvalhaes says "On this day we celebrate our oneness in Christ, the Prince of Peace, in the midst of the world we are called to serve – a world ever more in need of peacemaking."

(<https://www.claudiocarvalhaes.com/blog/world-communion-day-info-history/>)

So here's one of the things I'm thinking about this Sunday:

There's a phrase, when there's no more room at the table, build a longer table.

Everyone is made in God's image and reflects God's goodness. When we set a table with a place for everyone, when we offer hospitality, we're offering hospitality to God

and "entertaining angels unaware." And when we are welcomed at Jesus' table, by our neighbors, that's a blessing.

Here's another thing I'm thinking about: we are connected to people around the world. We're connected to the places in the world where our ancestors and the people who have nurtured us lived. We're connected to our siblings two towns over, two states over, two countries over, and on the other side of the globe.

Today, let's think about all the places we're connected.

I asked households to bring special breads. Would anyone like to tell us about the bread you brought? What kind of bread is it, why is it special, and where in the world is it from?

And now, tell me about the places in the world for which you are praying today.....