

Communion Cup Making

Step 1 – Making Your Cup at Home

- Each 5th grade student and each parent is encouraged to make a communion cup.
- Choose a design (with a stem or without).
- If you choose to make a cup with a stem please create the cup all in 1 piece, rather than trying to make 2 pieces and join them (we have seen cups made in 2 pieces fall apart during the firing process).
- Shape your cup so that you can drink out of it (sounds kinda silly, but it needs to be functional, so wine/juice does not dribble down your clothing).



IMPORTANT:

- a) **Make sure that there are no cracks or crevices anywhere on your cup** (the photo shows an example of what NOT to do, as there are many cracks and crevices). To remove the cracks and crevices dip your finger in water, adding JUST A LITTLE WATER, and smooth out all of the cracks and crevices (If you add too much water your clay will turn to sloppy mud). If there are cracks and crevices in your cup it is almost impossible to get glaze into all of the holes, so your cup will be porous, allowing wine/juice to seep into the cup (overtime it can become gross and nasty).
- b) **Etch the number that your family has been assigned onto the bottom of the cup with a toothpick** (you'll find your assigned number on the bag of clay that you receive), so we know what cups belong to what family.
- c) Please **make your cups on/before Monday, March 15**, so that your cup has plenty of time to dry before you bring it to Immanuel to glaze.

Step 2 – Glazing Your Cup at Immanuel on March 20 or 21

- Put 2 thin coats of glaze on your cup.
- Brushes should only be used with one color (do not use the same brush for multiple colors).
- You can use multiple colors of glaze, but again, please do not use the same brush.

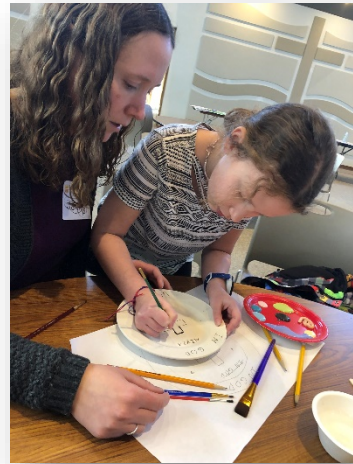
IMPORTANT:

- Make sure that all parts of the cup are covered with glaze – *except the bottom of the cup* (We will add wax-resist to the bottom of your cup, so it does not stick to the kiln when being fired).
- **Make sure that ALL cracks, crevices and/or holes are covered with glaze.**
- When finished glazing place your cup, right side-up to dry.



Holy Communion Memento: Plate Painting

- **Make sure your hands are clean** (no clay residue or dirt on your hands) as the clay or dirt on your hands can contaminate the surface of the plate.
- Make sure you have a clean piece of paper on your table to protect the table from any spills/drips.
- **Gently draw your design on your plate in light pencil** (The pencil will burn off in the firing process so all pencil lines will be removed).
- You can choose to put whatever design on your plate that you choose. Common design elements in the past have included things like: a cross, symbols of Holy Communion (bread, grapes, chalice/cup), words/phrases like:
 - Take and eat. Take and drink.
 - For the forgiveness of sins.
 - Holy Communion.
 - The date (especially if it will be a memento of the child's first communion)
- **When writing words/letters it is easier to paint larger letters** (rather than small letters within compact words).
- When your child decides what paint colors they want to use on their plate they can go to MaryKay and receive small dollops of paint.
- **After using each color rinse the brush in water** (so the previous colors do not get mixed on the brush).
- Place your plate on the table to dry.



After You Have Painted Your Plate:

- MaryKay will apply a clear glaze before they are sent to be fired.
- **Contactless pick up:** When the cups and plates have been fired we'll let you know when you can swing by MaryKay's house in Chanhassen to pick them up (We will let you know windows of availability when you can pull into MaryKay's driveway, text her that you have arrived. She will then open her garage remotely enabling a contactless pick-up procedure).
- **Submit a photo:** We ask that parents take a photo of their child with their finished cup and plate, and then email to Martin so we can share them on-screen during worship.