

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH MORNING MESSAGE

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

TRANSITIONAL PASTOR TED LAND

BRADENTON, FL

Greetings in Christ Jesus!

A month or so from now, we will gain back that hour we lost in the Spring, when we went on Daylight Saving Time, unless lawmakers decide to keep the time the same year round.

When we drive to the city where we are going to retire next year, we cross into the Central Time Zone. So we arrive in Marianna at the same time we passed through Tallahassee. On the way back, it takes an hour longer than it should.

Time zones and the clock are changeable. It isn't the same time all around the world at 10 or 11 o'clock on Sunday morning.

This World Communion Sunday is a Sunday like no other in our memory. In the Sanctuary after six and a half months. Masks. Social distance. Hand sanitizers. No singing, no reciting the Lord's Prayer. Communion from a double sealed cup.

Will things ever be the same as they were?

I don't think so. I hope they will be better. I hope we will have learned some lessons. I hope we will be more "health aware" and more "tech savvy."

When I think of all the hours I've driven to meetings that thanks to technology I will never have to drive again, I know that there is at least one blessing out of all of this.

When I think about friends and former church members who have participated in our worship online, I know there has been another one. When I think about people who have to work on Sundays, or who are travelling, being able to tune in to their home church service later in the day, or on another day, there is yet another.

Long years ago, in Youth for Christ meetings on Saturday evenings in the church where I was baptized. we sang "Count your many blessings, name them one by one. Count your many blessings, see what God has done."

Start counting.

Your Transitional Pastor,

Ted Land