Because each setting and context is different enough, I am not going to tell congregations how to do communion or make your plan for you. You need to consider your own situation, implements, space, numbers, etc. Instead, I will offer guidance on what, according to Phase 1 requirements as I understand them, should NOT be done, and let each congregation make their own plans for how to do it.

1. Keep in mind that you don’t have to hold communion, even while worshipping in person, especially if it presents too many logistical problems and creates too many risks. Do a service of the Word instead.
2. If you do have it, remind folks that they don’t have to receive it. Jesus is still present with them if they stay seated and receive a blessing instead.
3. If you do have it, don’t cross the 6-foot social distance line in anything you do. Maintain safe airspace.
4. Don’t do anything that would create direct skin contact with anyone or anything that could immediately be touched by anything or anyone else. Maintain safe touch space.
5. Therefore:
   1. Avoid Handing bread/wafers directly to someone.
   2. Avoid Intinction.
   3. Avoid Common cup, including pouring out of one cup into individual glasses. You have to stand too close for that and there are sharing airspace risks.
   4. Avoid using prefilled Cups in trays. Too much breathing on or potential touch issues as cups are taken or handed over.
   5. Avoid kneeling at the rail. There are airspace issues and touching the rail issues. The rail would have to be wiped down after each touch.
   6. Avoid standing in line to wait for communion or anything else.
   7. Avoid Servers getting too close in any form of delivery. This includes you, pastors and LPA’s, as well as volunteers…don’t put your own life on the line for this.
   8. Avoid letting any person who might possibly be sick with anything do any preparing or serving.
   9. Avoid bringing communion to anyone in the pews. (Airspace and touching issues.)
   10. Avoid touching anyone in any sort of blessing.
6. Possible ideas
   1. No communion.
   2. Pre-prepared individual plates prepped according to all safety standards with bread and wine already on them. The plates are placed one at a time on a table for participants to take themselves. A bin for regular plates or garbage can for paper plates off to the side for people to place them in. People come up individually and one at a time. Keep in mind that some people have difficulty with walking, shaking or picking things up. Also don’t place the elements directly on the table since people will no doubt touch the table as they pick things up. Use easy to manage plates instead. A major hassle to set up and do but…
   3. “Bring your own bread and wine/juice” and have folks stay in the pew six feet apart to receive. (I’m still working out the theological implications of this but if they can use their own elements virtually, I’m not seeing a problem with using their own in person, at least for the time being.)
   4. I’m open to hearing and sharing other ideas as you innovate and create for your own spaces and settings.