

## ACOLYTE GUIDELINES

Put on a white robe and belt. I (Gail) wear a size 13. If you are not as tall as I am, look for a size smaller. Check the altar to see what color belt you wear. Also put on your Acolyte cross.

About 10 minutes before the service, light the altar candles. It doesn't matter which you light first. To light the candles the lamplighter is held upwards as you walk. Walk to the center opening in the altar rail. Bow your head as an expression of respect. Light the candles. Extinguish the lamplighter. Return through the center opening, turn towards altar, bow again and return the lamplighter to the beam with offering plates. Sit in the pew beside the altar. No friends may join you. Follow along during the service. You may sit with your parents during the sermon if you wish. Thanks.

“PASCAL, EASTER OR TALL” CANDLE: Check with Pastor or Gail whether you light this candle or not. It is **not** always to be lighted. It will be lit and extinguished **after** the altar candles. Thanks.

OFFERING: This will follow the PEACE. Please participate in sharing the Peace but watch that you are back in time for the offering. Watch the ushers. When they are ready they will stand at the back facing the altar. Bring the plates to the center aisle by the baptismal font. Hand them to the ushers. Two each. You have a choice at this time: remain in the center aisle, step to the side or return to your seat. Watch the ushers. When they are finished they will stand at the back facing the altar. At this time return to the center aisle and take the offering plates from the ushers. Please turn, walk towards the center of the altar, hold the plates up head high and bow your head in respect. Then return the plates to the rack. Thanks.

COMMUNION: Walk to the altar with the Lector after Pastor has blessed the bread and wine. Take an empty tray and follow the Lector or person carrying the tray with filled glasses. Offer the tray to those communing-by-glass so they may put their empty glass in your tray. There will always be a second empty tray on the altar when yours gets filled up. Get it yourself when you need to. When communion is finished, Pastor will take your tray or place it on the altar yourself. There's no special place. Stand with the Lector and Worship Assistant to receive communion. When done, leave the altar area with the Lector and return to your seat. Thanks.

When the Worship Assistant or someone has said “Go in peace and serve the Lord” the service is over. Take the lamplighter, now with the extinguisher bell forward, and extinguish the candles. Again, there is no special order. Remember to bow in respect when you leave the altar area. Thanks.

You are now finished. Return your robe to its hanger and the belt and cross to their hooks. Thank you for assisting in the worship service. You are the best; you're wonderful and very much loved by your church family.