

Lector Guidelines

Grace and peace to those who serve in the Worship of the Lord!

If you are scheduled to serve as Lector, a reminder card and a copy of the Lessons will be mailed to you prior to your scheduled service. Lectors read the first and second lesson appointed for the day. These lessons may be separated by the singing of the Psalm or a song. Check with the Pastor regarding this, for each particular service.

We ask each Lector to read from the pulpit using the lectionary (book containing the lessons). It will be open to the lessons for the day. It is helpful if the Lector is seated somewhere near the front on the pulpit side of the Sanctuary to make it easier to move quickly into the pulpit for the readings. Part of our Natural Church Development strategy to improve Passionate Spirituality is to encourage Bible reading among our members. In order to help people to get accustomed to opening the Bible, the Lector should announce the reference to each passage and give the page number in the red pew Bibles. Allow some time for people to find the passage so that they may read along.

It is very important for people in the congregation to hear the lesson and understand what is being said. It is helpful to speak more slowly and enunciate more clearly than a person would normally do in conversation. Coming early and practicing is recommended. Do not trust in the P.A. system to boost your voice. Speak as though you were talking to someone in the back of the church. Also please be careful not to get too close to the microphone causing a breathy popping sounds when you say hard consonants. About four inches distance is fine.

At the conclusion of the reading say "*The Word of the Lord*".

Our practice is also to have Lectors serve as Communion Assistants. Communion Assistants may wear robes (Albs) for the Communion portion of the service. A good time for you to put on the alb is during or shortly after the offering. After the Lord's Prayer, you may join the Pastor and Worship Assistant at the Altar. Lectors usually distribute the wine in the individual glasses. As each person puts out their hand to receive say, "*The Blood of Christ shed for you*". If there is no acolyte present, the empty glasses are returned to your tray.

At the end of the distribution you may move to the pew next to the Altar area for the remainder of the worship service.

Thank you for your willingness to serve Grace Lutheran in this way! Lectors are a valued part of our worship life.