



LITURGIST TRAINING

PREPARING

- Download and print the liturgy and instructions sent to you via email for your assigned Sunday. Review it and practice it before hand, speaking clearly and slowly. Any questions about pronunciation, ask the pastor.
- Dress "nice casual."
- Arrive no later than 10:45 for any questions, final or addition instructions.
- As the worship service begins, please take a seat on the front pew on the side where the podium is.

LEADING THE LITURGY

- Before any element of worship you are leading, quietly move toward the podium about 10 seconds before the previous element ends.
e.g. as the congregation is singing the final line of the Hymn of Praise, start moving toward the podium and be in place to offer the Opening Prayer 2-3 seconds after it ends
- Keep the flow of worship going! Avoid awkward silences or movement.
- Introducing the Worship Elements
 - **Call to Worship:** "Please join me in the Call to Worship..."
 - **Opening Prayer:** "Let us pray..."
 - **Affirmation of Faith:** "Let us affirm our faith together with The Apostles' Creed (or whatever creed we are using that Sunday) as printed in our bulletin..."
 - **Psalter:** "Let us join together in reading responsively Psalm 23 on page 754 in our United Methodist Hymnal..."
 - **Offering:** "Will the ushers please come forward for the Offering..." After the ushers arrive at the front of the chancel rail, the acolyte will hand them their offering plates, and you will

say, "Let us pray..." and pray the Offering Prayer, then return to your seat.

- Scripture: "A reading from John, chapter 3, verse 16..." After the reading close with, "The word of God for the people of God," and the congregation will respond with, "Thanks be to God."
- Hymn: "Let us stand and sing together hymn number 57, O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing..."
- Note: Whenever the congregation is seated and needs to stand for a worship element say, "Please stand as you are able..." and introduce the element. Whenever the congregation needs to be seated after a worship element simply say, "Please be seated..."

➤ SERVING HOLY COMMUNION

- As liturgist, you will assist the pastor in serving Holy Communion.
- The pastor will call you up to the Table when it is time to assist.
- The liturgist holds the chalice (cup) and serves the wine (grape juice)
- Follow the pastor's lead on where to stand.
- As you serve, say to each person, "The blood of Christ (or Jesus) given for you..."
- If persons need to be served in the pew, follow the pastor's lead.
- After everyone in the congregation has been served, follow the pastor to the Table where you will be served and then help serve the pastor, then return to your seat.

➤ IN CLOSING

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