

Instructions for Worship Scripture Readers

Thank you for serving as a reader and giving of your time and self. Please remember that as a scripture reader you are a worship leader. We encourage you to be joyful and reverent as you show forth the love of Christ to all.

- As you prepare to share the word of God with the congregation on Sunday we encourage you to take the time with the scripture readings throughout the week prior to your reading: Pray...Listen...Read...Pray...Listen...Read
- At least fifteen minutes prior to the start of the worship, mark the location of the lessons with the ribbons in the lectern (podium on your left as you face the altar) Bible and leave the Bible open to the First Reading. Adjust the microphone so that it is in front of your neck. It is not necessary to be any closer than 12 in. from the mic.)
- When you read please stand up straight, not leaning into the lectern or microphone. The sound system is very sensitive so please do not tap your fingers on the lectern or bump it with your feet.
- Start each reading by these or similar words: The First (Second) Reading is from the book of _____ Chapter _____.
- Please read from the large lectern Bible (New Revised Standard Version, which is also the version in the bulletins and in the pew Bibles.)
- Please note in your bulletin how the reading should end. Sometimes you will say “Word of God, Word of life,” other times you may say “The Word of God,” etc. If no ended is noted please say “Here ends the Reading” or you may simply end the reading with no closing words.
- Readers are at the lectern for one and only one reason: to read the Word of God to those assembled for worship
 - * Introductory words of greeting such as, “Good Morning!” are inappropriate at this point and divert attention from the Scripture to the reader.
 - * Introductory words of interpretation of the lesson are also inappropriate. If such are needed, they will be placed into the bulletin.

- Please sit in the chair next to the lectern or stand off to the side between the readings. Please check the bulletin for the order of service. Sometimes you will read the first and second readings back to back without sitting down between them.
- There is a reading help entitled “Harper’s Bible Pronunciation Guide” on the shelf in the lectern if you need help pronouncing a word. A second copy is available in the church library reference section. Feel free to also ask the pastor if you have any questions.

Thank you again for your willingness to do this important ministry. May God be with you as you prepare and as you read. If you have any questions or concerns please speak with the Pastor or the Worship Committee.