



CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED

9 AM Instructions for Lectors & Intercessors

Thank you for saying yes to participating as a member of the 9 AM Worship Support Team for SANCTUARY. Your role is integral to Christ Church's ability to welcome all people into a loving and joyful community that serves others and seeks to grow deeper in relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

You will assist the clergy and staff by fulfilling the weekly ministry roles and encouraging children and youth as ministers in the services of Holy Eucharist held in the Church as we inspire, form, and bless all ages.

Before the service:

- Read the lesson or prayers and spend time thinking and praying to understand the passage/who you are inviting the congregation to pray for. With the lesson, remember that there is not a correct interpretation—the reading should come from your heart.
- **Practice.** Whenever possible, practice out loud and with an audience. This helps one be familiar with where the places that need emphasis, emotion, or pausing are required.
- Everyone gets nervous. **Working to read slowly helps to keep you calm**, as does focusing on breathing deeply.
- The following link gives help with pronunciation for those tricky Bible words, names, and places: <http://netministries.org/Bbasics/BBwords.htm>.
- Please arrive by 8:45 AM and let the clergy know you are here. You will find them in the sacristy or vesting area.
 - Place your reading or prayers on the Bible at the lectern no later than 8:50 AM. If you need a copy, find it downstairs near the clergy vesting rooms pinned next to the prayer board. Paperclips are there as well. Please do not carry your reading up with you during the service.
 - Our microphone is very sensitive. It needs to be 4-5 inches away from your face or to the side of your mouth. If it is too close, “pops” or “booms” are created by your breath or speech, but it is also important to be heard. Set the microphone when you place your reading, and, if you need it, add the extra step so that you can be seen over the top of the Bible. Sit close, even the first pew!

During the service:

- Lector
 - Move to the lectern during the music before the opening prayer, but let the people sit down before you speak. This saves time in the service.
 - Work to read clearly and breathe if you get nervous. Remember, the congregation doesn't have the words in front of them, only you do. Readers who make the greatest impression are those who read clearly, with emphasis and energy. Strive for the balance between dramatic and dull!
 - Close with a pause and look at the congregation as you say the ending, “The Word of the Lord.”

- Intercessor
 - Start making your way toward the lectern during the last few lines of the Affirmation of Faith. When the Affirmation finishes, you should be at the lectern; pause and begin the prayers.
 - Our prayers ask you to invite the congregation to silent reflection and conversation, so you are truly leading them in prayer. When you invite them, they will offer names or concerns out loud or silently. Give time for that and pray your own.
 - When the prayers are done, make your way back to your seat as the Confession is beginning.

After the service:

- Please return to the Bible and remove your reading.
- If you would like to assist with other tasks, you are most welcome to help!
 - Once the choir has entered for rehearsal, make your way to the upper sacristy (using the back steps, if possible). Try to be quiet as they practice.
 - Place the wine in the chalices in the container marked for consecrated wine (it will be properly disposed of at the end of the morning) and leave the chalices on the counter by the sink.
 - Treat any linens for wine stains using the spray and leave them in cold water in the proper container at the sink.
 - Transfer any consecrated bread or wine not in the chalice to the vessels in the aumbry if that wasn't done by the clergy in the service.
 - Wipe the large patens with a soft cloth and place a purificator between them.
 - Set the credence table for the 10:30 AM service.
 - On the left side, place the silver cruets of water (closer to the wall) and wine.
 - In front of them, place the ciborium (the container for wafers) and the pyx (small container for gluten-free wafers).
 - In the center front, place the stacked large patens, behind them, the chalice draped with purificator.
 - In the middle on the right side, place the spoon and glass coaster, leaving room for the clergy to place the vessels with consecrated elements from the aumbry.
 - Reset the altar for the 10:30 AM service.
 - Spread a linen corporal in the center of the altar closest to where celebrant stands, with the cross at the edge of the table.
 - Take chalice, purificator, paten with priest host, and pall, and place them in the center of the corporal, then dress this with the silk veil and place the burse on top. There is a drawing for reference in the sacristy.
 - Check for any bulletins that are left from the 9 AM service and place one for the 10:30 service in one seat in the sanctuary on the right side.

Thank you for your ministry among us!