

GUIDELINES FOR LITURGISTS - 2021

*Thank you for participating in worship at the Little Chapel. The Worship Committee is responsible for securing and training Liturgists for our worship services. We all appreciate the importance of volunteer Liturgists in worship and want to ensure that our volunteers are comfortable with the procedures and understand the importance of their role. Since our Liturgists' participation in worship occurs near the beginning of the service, it is important to continue an atmosphere of reverence, as the Liturgists help to set the tone for worship.

*VERY IMPORTANT! Please do NOT say "Good Morning" or some other greeting, as your part in the worship service comes after the greeting and call to worship by the pastor. The greeting has already been accomplished and that is not your role. The liturgist is responsible for leading the Call to Confession and the Old Testament reading, usually from Psalms.

*Please use the version of the Bible on the lectern, NSV, which is similar to the pew Bibles. We want to encourage use of the pew Bibles. If you want to use another version, please consult with Pastor Pat Rabun first.

*The bulletin information is available from Delores Dyer, Office Administrator, by Thursday each week. She will email that information to you if you contact her.

SUGGESTIONS AND HINTS

* Practice! It is very important to feel comfortable with the texts you will be reading. It is entirely appropriate to practice in the sanctuary, either prior to Sunday morning or early, before the beginning of the service. This helps one feel comfortable in this role.

* Speak carefully into the microphone. Feel comfortable with the position of the microphone, it is adjustable. Don't be afraid to move the microphone up or down to suit you.

* Locate the Scripture reading in the Bible located on the lectern and leave it open to the passage for you to use during the service. A sticky note can be placed either on your bulletin or in the Bible prompting your "This is the Word of the Lord" at the end of the Scripture reading.

* Carefully articulate your words, speaking slowly and deliberately. It can seem slow to you! Good delivery skills are important, and these skills can be learned and improved when we are conscious of the importance. Speaking is an acquired skill!

* It is important to speak with passion and expression. Read with emphasis so that the congregation will know you are sincere, reverent, and believe what you are reading. Varying the pitch and volume of your voice helps to avoid monotony.

* The pastor leads the Call to Worship. The Liturgists' role begins with the Call to Confession. Give directions to the congregation...such as "Please be seated" after the hymn and before the confession, " please join me responsively as we confess our sins" to introduce the confession, etc. It is especially important to tell the congregation to be seated after the Gloria Patri, as they always seem to hesitate at that point.

* Announce the children's sermon by calling for the children to join at the front for the children's message.

The most important impression that we should impart to the congregation is our love for God and our desire to worship in reverence and praise. If the Liturgist feels comfortable in his/her role in leading worship, the congregation is at ease also. We want to communicate our love for worship and passion for His message when we are poised and confident in our leadership role.

MOST IMPORTANTLY - BE JOYFUL! WE ARE IN GOD'S PRESENCE!!