

Serving as a Lector



And He said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." -Mark 16:15-62

Proclaiming the Word of God

Faith comes from hearing, and what is heard is the Word of Christ. -Romans 10:17

What is a Lector?

Scripture itself tells us that God's Word is living and active. The lector serves an important role to God and the Church as one who reads the Scripture lessons during the worship service.

Lector Needs

Two lectors are needed for each service. Each lector will have one reading:

- The Old Testament (First Lesson)
- The Epistle (Second Lesson)

Lector Responsibilities

- During the week prior to serving as lector, spend some time in prayer. Pray that the Holy Spirit will guide you in your proclamation and speak through you as His instrument.
- The readings for the upcoming Sunday can be found on the website (Service Calendar) or in Grace Notes Weekly (weekly e-news sent out on Wednesday). Please note: The *New International Version* is used in our Lectionary.
- Scripture readings are printed in the worship bulletin. When you arrive at church, ensure that they have not changed since you looked them up.
- Prepare your reading well. Reflect on its meaning. Practice to become

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comfortable with your reading and know how to pronounce difficult words.

- At the appropriate time during the worship service as indicated in the bulletin, walk up to the lectern. If possible, be up front (waiting in the side aisle on the lectern side of the sanctuary) in order to prevent a long silent pause during the service.
- While standing at the lectern, the microphone placement should be level or slightly below your mouth.
- When you step up to the lectern, please project and speak up. The audio level is preset.
- You may introduce the first reading by saying one of the following:
 - The Old Testament reading for _____ (refer to Sunday in the church year from front of bulletin from _____ (name of book), chapter _____.
 - The first reading for _____ (refer to Sunday in the church year from front of bulletin) is from _____ (name of book), chapter _____.
 - The Old Testament reading is from _____ (name of book), chapter _____.
 - The first reading for _____ is from _____ (name of book), chapter _____.
- At the conclusion of the reading, proclaim, **“This is the Word of the Lord.”** The congregation will respond: “Thanks be to God.”
- Introduce the second reading by saying one of the following:
 - The Epistle reading for _____ (refer to Sunday in the church year from front of bulletin) is from _____ (name of book), chapter _____.
 - The second reading for _____ (refer to Sunday in the church year from front of bulletin) is from _____ (name of book), chapter _____.
 - The second reading is from _____ (name of book), chapter _____.
- At the conclusion of the reading, proclaim, **“This is the Word of the Lord.”** The congregation will respond: “Thanks be to God.”

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- Return to your pew.
- If you cannot serve at your scheduled time, please find a substitute and inform Marg Schultz and the church office.

A Lector's Prayer Before Worship:

Almighty God, As I prepare myself to read, still my heart. Help me immerse myself in the Scriptures to hear Your message in them, that I may proclaim Your message to others. I ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Lector Coordinator:

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