



# Trinity Lutheran Church – Youth on Wednesday

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## YOW Worship Team Duties

### Greeter

- Arrive no later than 6:00 pm.
- Wear a name tag (find yours on the wall, if you do not have one make one and let a leader know).
- Stand near the outside door and open it as people arrive.
- Greet everyone as they enter the building.
- Stay in the Gathering Space for 5-10 minutes after the service starts to welcome any late worshippers.

### Usher

- Arrive no later than 6:00 pm.
- Wear a name tag (find yours on the wall, if you do not have one make one and let a leader know).
- Stand outside the sanctuary doors and greet worshippers.
- Have Wednesday service bulletins ready and hand them to worshippers as they enter the sanctuary.
- Close the sanctuary doors once the acolyte has completed lighting the candles and Pastor has entered.
- Once the service begins, sit in the chairs near the sanctuary doors or one of the back pews.
- Watch for latecomers and make sure they get bulletins.
- For offering, walk together up the aisle and Pastor will give you the offering plates.
- Hand offering plate to the first person at the end of the first pew. Worshippers will either drop their offering in or take the plate and pass it.
- Be sure to watch where the offering plate goes and be ready to receive it from the last pew and hand it to the first person in the next pew.
- When all offerings have been collected, both ushers stand side-by-side and wait for the music to change and people to stand.
- Hand plates to pastor and return to your seats.
- Ushering for communion is in the same order as offering collection on Sundays. Wednesdays, usher one side forward and then the other.

### Acolyte

- Enter the sanctuary with the lit candle lighter.
- Light the candles at the front of the sanctuary (keep lighting wand lit)
- Leave the sanctuary and then extinguish the lighting wand.
- Following the service, light the wand and extinguish the candles (keep lighting wand lit)
- Leave the sanctuary and then extinguish the lighting wand.

### Communion Assistant

- When Pastor is giving communion instructions, go up to the altar.
- When Pastor is done giving instructions, he will give communion to the assistant(s)
- Give Pastor communion handing him the bread saying “Body of Christ, given for you”, then offer him the wine saying, “Blood of Christ, shed for you.”
- Following him down to offer communion to all worshippers saying, “Blood of Christ, shed for you.”
- Return wine tray behind the altar and return to your seat.

## Reader

- Preparation for reading. YOW leaders will give you a copy of the reading at least a week in advance. If they don't, please ask for it.
  - Practice. Read the Scripture passage out loud to yourself. If a particular passage is difficult to read, then give it enough practice until you are confident.
  - Research. If the Scripture has words you do not know how to pronounce or you do not know what they mean, look them up or ask someone for assistance.
  - Translation. The PowerPoint will have the passage from the NRSV (New Revised Standard Version). Please read from that translation for the sake of consistency.
- Effective Reading!
  - Slowly. Reading too fast is the biggest beginners mistake. Read slowly but not so slow that the reading drags on. Ask someone to judge your speed in reading.
  - Clearly. Good diction and enunciation is important, especially for those who have difficulty hearing. Often people complain about the volume of reading, but in reality, it is the lack of clarity in the voice of the speaker.
  - Using Microphones. Practice using the microphone before worship time. Have someone test your volume. Be loud enough, but do not blast the congregation. It is better to be a bit too loud than too quiet. Remember that some folks have hearing difficulties.
  - Expressive. Be expressive with the tone and mood of the text. Let the text guide you for the tone. If you have prepared, then you will have some sense of the tone of the text. Monotone speaking will create boring readings. Worship should be lively and that begins with lively readings. A note of caution to the overly expressive. Too Exuberant reading can take the focus off the scripture and put it on the theatrics of the reader. Scripture is the focus, not the reader.
  - Decorum. Since the focus should be on Scripture, readers closing should not be excessively flamboyant nor too casual. If people are shocked, distracted, or disturbed by what we are wearing, then this will be a distraction from the reading of Scripture. Readers should be humble enough to dress appropriately for reading.
  - Mistakes. Since we are not God, we are not perfect. If a mistake is made, stop and reread the verse. It is not necessary to say "sorry" or "excuse me." Continue reading with confidence, knowing that God expects faithful worship, not perfect worship. Faithfulness will include mistakes at times. If you accept that it is OK to make mistakes, this will lessen one's nervousness.