

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

Lector Guidelines

1. You will receive the lectionary by email from the office, usually by Wednesday. Read it over and practice reading it out loud so that you are familiar with the text and figure out any difficult pronunciations. A copy of the readings will be on the pulpit when you go up to read.
2. The readings are read immediately following the children's sermon. There will not be a children's sermon at 1st service if no children are present. Be aware of where the readings fall in the service and be ready to go up to the pulpit at the right time to avoid delays in the service.
3. Read slowly and clearly. You are speaking God's word, so do it with authority and confidence.
4. The lector *may* need to assist with communion if there is no acolyte. After the Lord's Prayer and invitation to communion, join the other communion assistants at the altar. The communion assistants are communed first.
5. During communion, the lector carries the basket for empty cups if no acolyte is assigned. Follow behind the other communion assistants and collect the empty wine/grape juice cups. After communion, put the baskets back on the table behind the altar where they were before communion. If the vicar is not present, you may be asked to carry the chalice or tray of cups. See the communion assistant instructions for guidelines for these jobs.