

Guide for Liturgists

Thank you for agreeing to serve as a liturgist during worship at Village Chapel. Serving as a leader is very important and we want to help you as you prepare for your participation. Most of us in the pew are not totally aware of some of the elements in the worship service because we have grown so accustomed to them. For this reason, we have prepared some help for you. The church will e-mail you a copy of the service toward the end of the week you are leading. Please become familiar with it before the service begins. On Sunday morning, please meet Todd just outside the chancel area of the sanctuary no later than 10:50 am unless you are in the choir and robed.

BEGINNING: You do not need to say "Good Morning" since the congregation will already have been greeted and welcomed. After the prelude is over, walk to the pulpit and ask those who are able to stand for the Introit, calling attention to the fact that the words are printed in the bulletin. When the Introit is over, say something like, "Please join me in the Call to Worship". You do not need to introduce the hymn. However if you forget and announce it, give the name of the hymn followed by its number in the Hymnal.

CONFESSION: *This is done from the Baptismal font.* Please use one of these Calls to Confession, use a portion of one, or write your own:

- 1. Beloved, God does not disappoint those who come in hope, nor does God turn away those who approach in faith. Let us make our confession to God in hope and faith.*
- 2. Scripture says that if we are faithful in confessing our sin, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sin and we will be reconciled to him. Let us confess together.*
- 3. In our confession, we confess things for which we are personally guilty or responsible; we also acknowledge what life is like in an imperfect world. Let us confess our sin to God.*
- 4. The confession of our sins before God and one another reminds us that as individual believers and as a community of faith, we do stray or turn from the ways of love and justice. We believe that if we confess we shall be forgiven, freed from the burden of guilt and empowered to carry on the ministry of Christ. Therefore, with confidence in the mercy of God, let us pray together.*
- 5. Too often our hearts are cold and without gratitude. Too often our hands are passive and unwilling to carry our acts of mercy. Too often our lips are pursed tightly and unwilling to speak words of mercy. Too often we are indeed separated and alienated from our better self, separated and alienated from God. Let us confess our separation and alienation. Let us join together in the prayer of confession.*
- 6. Let us remember as we confess our sin that life is a balancing act between faith and fear. Choosing fear may not bring us the blessings we desire, but it also does not condemn us in the eyes of God. Let us confess our sins as we also are thankful for God's forgiveness.*

Following the Prayer of Confession, pour water into the baptismal bowl, read the printed Assurance of Pardon and then say,

“Having made peace with God, let us share that peace with one another. The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.”

During the sharing of the peace, you may return to your place with the congregation or the choir.

Thank you again for your service.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

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