

CUSTOMARY FOR LECTORS/LAY READERS

1. PRACTICE YOUR READING(S) BEFORE YOU GET TO CHURCH ON THE SUNDAY THAT YOU ARE SCHEDULED TO READ. THE PARISH ADMINISTRATOR WILL EMAIL YOU A COPY OF THE READINGS IN THE WEEK PRIOR, OR, IF YOU LIKE, YOU MAY FIND THE LECTIONARY ON THE CHURCH WEBSITE. PLEASE REMEMBER THAT DURING PENTECOST, THERE ARE TWO TRACKS. MAKE SURE YOU KNOW WHICH TRACK WE ARE FOLLOWING FOR THE SEASON.
 - a. IF YOU NEED PRONUNCIATION HELP, YOU MAY GO ONLINE TO WWW.BIBLESPEAK.ORG. THERE YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BOTH HEAR IT AND READ IT PHONETICALLY.
 - b. IF YOU NEED TO BRING ANY PRONUNCIATION NOTES WITH YOU TO THE SERVICE AS A REMINDER, PLEASE PLACE THEM IN THE BOOK ON THE LECTERN PRIOR TO THE SERVICE.
 - c. **PLEASE PUNCTUATE AND ENUNCIATE IN YOUR READING! And project. Slow down if necessary. It may sound to you like you are dragging, but to the congregation you are not.**
2. ONCE YOU ARRIVE AT CHURCH, PLEASE SIT TOWARDS THE FRONT, SO THERE IS NOT A LONG WAIT TIME BETWEEN READERS. IF YOU NEED PHYSICAL ASSISTANCE, PLEASE LET THE DEACON OR THE VERGER KNOW PRIOR TO THE SERVICE. WHEN IT IS TIME FOR THE LESSONS, PLEASE APPROACH THE ALTAR EMPTY-HANDED. THE BOOK IS ALREADY ON THE LECTERN, AND EVERYTHING IS IN LARGE PRINT. WHEN YOU APPROACH, PLEASE REVERENCE THE ALTAR (BOW YOUR HEAD SLIGHTLY) AND MOVE TO THE LECTERN.
3. UNTIL OTHERWISE NOTIFIED, PLEASE REMOVE YOUR MASK PRIOR TO BEGINNING TO READ, AND PLACE IT BACK OVER YOUR NOSE AND MOUTH AS YOU LEAVE THE LECTERN. IF WE ARE REQUIRED TO REMAIN MASKED AT ALL TIMES, PLEASE WEAR A PAPER, DISPOSAL MASK IF YOU ARE TO READ. THEY SEEM NOT TO MUFFLE THE SOUND AS MUCH AS A CLOTH MASK.
4. BEFORE BEGINNING YOUR READING, YOU **MUST** ADJUST THE MICROPHONE SO THAT IT IS POINTED DIRECTLY AT YOUR MOUTH. MOVE THE BOOK IF NECESSARY SO THAT YOU ARE READING STRAIGHT INTO THE MIC.
5. READ EXACTLY WHAT IS WRITTEN. NO AD LIBBING, PLEASE. EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO SAY IS ON THE WRITTEN PAGE. AT THE END OF THE READING, PLEASE PAUSE, AND THEN CLEARLY STATE: THE WORD OF THE LORD.
6. IF YOU HAVE THE OLD TESTAMENT READING, PLEASE TURN THE PAGE FOR THE NEXT READER. YOU MAY REVERENCE THE ALTAR ON YOUR RETURN TO YOUR PEW.
7. AND THAT DOES IT! THANK YOU FOR BEING WILLING TO SERVE ST. PHILIP'S IN THIS VERY IMPORTANT MINISTRY.