

Liturgist Team Reminders

Whether you're arriving on Zoom or on site, please arrive by 9:30 a.m. for sound checks. Jim wants to check each of us on every mic we use each week.

1. Hybrid worship
 - a. Our goals are (a) to make the experience of worship to be as close to "the same" as possible for everyone, on site and on Zoom, and (b) to make sure both "places" of gathering feel sacred and (as much as possible) and like it's "one gathering."
 - b. To help meet these goals, Jeff thinks that some worship leadership needs to happen from Zoom at least some of the time.
2. Using the mics
 - a. Always be mic-ed – it's the only way to get sound into the place you're not.
 - b. If you're being liturgist on Zoom, please make sure you have a strong connection to the Internet, a good mic, background, and pay attention to your lighting.
 - c. If you're being liturgist from the sanctuary, make sure your mic is working.
 - d. Remember the sanctuary mics are unidirectional. Point it at your mouth.
3. Looking at people
 - a. If you're leading from Zoom, all you have to do is look at the camera on your computer. People will experience that as you looking at them.
 - b. If you're leading from the sanctuary, you need to look at the sanctuary camera from time to time for people in Zoom to feel like you're looking at them.
 - c. Try to avoid being a bobblehead.
4. Seasonal Variations
 - a. The biggest changes to the order of worship will most often be at the beginning of the worship service. The liturgist's tasks will vary from season to season, especially at the beginning of the service. Some seasons it will be fairly straight forward. Other times it can get complicated and include music.
 - b. When Pastor Jeff is away, the liturgist may be asked to do things Jeff typically does at the beginning of the service (the welcome, the gathering reflection, other). Generally, Pastor Jeff will ask a Communion Elder to help lead prayers when he is away.
5. Introducing the Scripture lessons
 - a. *There may be seasonal variations to how much introduction we want you to give. Look at the "script of directions" for details every week.*
 - b. The purpose of the introduction is to invite people into the reading, to prepare themselves to hear God speaking through the scripture
 - c. Three directions to take for an introduction
 - i. Biblical background – Our next scripture reading comes from Paul's first letter to the church in Corinth, a church that was troubled with various infighting. Our next reading is from the prophet Amos who primarily preached to the _____ about _____. Jesus has just been preaching to a huge crowd and now he's got a little more intimate time with his disciples.

- ii. Thematic – In today’s reading, Jesus challenges the disciples’ ideas of greatness. In today’s reading, Jesus invites us to see service as key to discipleship.
 - iii. Personal – I love it when self-satisfied people have their bubble popped; let’s hear today’s gospel lesson. I’m glad Hosea never told me to shape up because he sure knows how to blast someone; listen to what he says to the Judeans.
 - d. Some texts need the Biblical background more than others to help set up the reading; just keep it short enough that it keeps the focus on the scripture, not the introduction.
 - e. You don’t need to say the chapter and verse numbers; they’re projected. If you do say them, say the words “chapter” and “verses.”
 - f. Remember, your scripture reading is a teaching moment for those who are new to Christianity and don’t have much Biblical background. (It’s also an opportunity to extend our extravagant welcome). It’s important to avoid saying things like “as we all know” and “everyone knows this story” that can make someone feel stupid or an outsider who doesn’t belong.
6. Reading the scripture itself
- a. Because we’re projecting the words, please use the translation you’ve been sent. (This will usually be the *New Revised Standard Version-updated edition*.)
 - b. Jeff tries to do some editing. For example, he may change “after this” to “after [whatever happened],” or changing “he said to him” to “Jesus said to Peter.”
 - c. Read from a piece of paper and not the slides.
 - d. Sometimes you’ll have a reading that might as well be a college professor lecturing. Reading this so it makes sense takes practice.
 - e. Sometimes you will have a reading that is poetry. Reading poetry well takes practice.
 - f. Sometimes you will have a reading that is a narrative, that tells a story. Visualize what’s happening *as* you read it to help the congregation visualize it. To do this effectively takes practice.
 - g. Some biblical words can be difficult to pronounce. Check out <https://www.netministries.org/resources/resource-pronunciation-guide> for help.
7. Instead of the Offering
- a. At this point, it looks like the offering isn’t returning to worship. Instead (at least for now), we’re doing either “A Moment for Gratitude,” “A Kairos Moment” (the third Sunday of odd numbered months), or “A Mission Moment” (first Sunday of the month). When it’s “A Moment for Gratitude,” you are the default person to do it, though someone might recruit people to bring in other voices.
 - b. When you do “A Moment for Gratitude,” you should talk about *anything* for which or about which you are thankful. It does not have to be connected to the church. It’s great if it connects to the theme for the day, but that’s not necessary.
 - c. When you’re offering “A Moment for Gratitude,” we’re asking you to conclude with a prayer.

8. Invitation to Action

Worship leaders’ schedule: <http://www.nilesdiscoverychurch.org/apps/WorshipSchedule.php>