

ACOLYTE & CROSSBEARER INSTRUCTIONS

Thank you for being a part of the worship service here at Good Shepherd. We are so very glad to have your help.

If you realize that you can't make your scheduled commitment, please find your replacement if you are able or contact Becky Howard at 314/753-9433 or bhoward@gscelca.org for help – we want to make sure that the Pastors have helpers! Even if you haven't been trained, or it's been awhile, you'll do just fine in your special role. The Pastors and ushers are always very helpful if you have questions before your service, and the job is easy...

1. Arrive 15 minutes before the service wearing nice clothes, including shoes and socks.
2. If it's the 8:00am or 9:30 service OR a special Sunday or holiday service, please go to the Fireside room, and put on the white robe over the black robe, and put a cross around your neck. It's all in the wardrobe closet.
3. If it's the 11:00am service, you don't need a robe or cross. (You may be asked to put on a robe for some special Sundays, like: Holy Week, Easter, Christmas, First Communion and Confirmation Sunday!)

Crossbearer

1. Find the cross from the Usher's closet at the rear of the church. (It may still be up front from a previous service.)
2. As the service begins, the Pastor or usher will let you know when to walk slowly down the aisle toward the altar, holding the cross straight up. The cross stand is to the right of the communion table. Once the cross is in place on the altar, **step back and bow to that cross.**
3. Place it in the stand facing forward. Take your seat.
4. During the closing hymn, walk up, bow to the cross then remove it, and take it back down the center aisle.

Acolyte

1. Find the taper (it lights the candles) in the Usher's closet. Allow the usher to light it for you when the service starts.
2. Follow the crossbearer down the aisle, once in front of the first step of the altar area, please bow your head to the cross then proceed with lighting the right candle first and then the left.
3. Pull the wick back in to put out the flame, and then slide it back out, so that it doesn't stick inside.
4. **Bow your head and go to your seat, in the first pew.** Place your taper under your seat.
5. For the offering, find the offering plates behind and to the left of the altar (as you are facing the altar).
6. Hand the offering plates to the ushers who have come forward. Return to your seat.
7. During the closing hymn, pick up the taper, and follow the crossbearer a few seconds after he picks up the cross. Extinguish the candles from left to right and leave down the middle aisle.

Communion Sundays (Normally the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month)

Communion will normally be served in one of two ways. If served by intinction, both the acolyte and crossbearer will merely receive communion with the first group and then return to their seats. They have no special role.

Communion served by Kneeling or Continuous, the acolytes and crossbearer will play a role...

Come to the communion rail with the first group and kneel. Acolyte kneels on one side of the altar rail opening and the Crossbearer kneels on the other side. Receive communion.

Stand and receive the empty tray handed to you. Proceed to the rear of the altar.

Follow behind all servers on your side, at the rear of the line, receiving the empty glasses.

When your tray gets full, trade it for an empty tray.

When all have been served, return to your seat.

YES, IT IS THAT EASY!!! Thank you for being a special part of the Good Shepherd family worship experience.