

ACOLYTE INSTRUCTIONS

Family of Christ

Revised 9-2018

1. Report to the Sacristy at least 20 minutes prior to your scheduled Worship Service.

Note: The Sacristy (Acolyte prep. Room) is located behind the Worship Center near the pop machines.

2. Put an acolyte gown on (8:15am service only) and fasten the rope around your waist. Additionally, acolytes may wear one of the cross necklaces available in the Sacristy.

Note: Please wear clothing suitable for worship, including brown or black dress shoes for the guys, and suitable ladies dress shoes for the girls (no gym shoes please).

3. A Lay Minister will meet you at the Sacristy to assist you with any needs as well as review the worship service and highlight your responsibilities.

Note: The Lay Ministers are your friends and are there to help you out. They wear a badge that say's "Lay Minister".

4. At the Lay Ministers cue both acolytes enter the Altar area from behind the back wall each from opposing sides. Proceed to the front of the altar, face it and bow towards the cross.

Note: Walk slowly and keep your thumb on the wick extender to keep your wick lit. If your candle lighter goes out, re-ignite it from the other acolyte's candle-lighter.

5. Proceed simultaneously, one acolyte to the front right and the other acolyte to the front left of the altar. Light the candles at the same time.

Note: Make sure to hold the candle lighter on very end of the handle in order to reach the tall candles. Often acolytes hold the lighter to far up on the handle and they are unable to reach the candles. Awkward!

6. Once candles are both lit, move to front of the altar, face the cross and bow. Together walk down the front steps and sit in the front row and participate in the Worship Service.

Note: This is a good time to take sermon notes.

- **When there is a Baptism: Light the Baptism candle during the Baptism song at Pastors cue.**
- **When there is Holy Communion: Proceed to the front of the line to take communion or receive a blessing. Immediately grab a Communion cup basket and stand near the Lay Ministers that are distributing the wine to collect the used cups.**

7. During the last verse of the closing hymn, together approach front steps and bow. Proceed to the front sides of the altar and extinguish candles at the same time.

Note: Don't forget to hold the candle lighter on the end of the handle again.

8. Bow once more in front of the altar and Leave the chancel around the back wall and out the back door.

9. Hang the gown neatly on the hanger, and hang rope tie and necklace on hanger as well.

Note: Don't forget to record your time on your Experiential Learning Module form to receive credit.

10. If you are not able to acolyte at your assigned time, it is your responsibility to find a substitute.

Note: Remember that acolyting is an important part of the worship service. Your commitment helps to make worship meaningful for the entire congregation.

Thank you and God's Blessings as you serve our Lord and Savior!