



the service of **LECTORS**

God uses Lectors to share His Word with the congregation. As the Word of God is read, God promises that He imparts power to those very words, sending His Holy Spirit to work faith in dead hearts. Reading God's Word publicly is an awesome privilege and serious responsibility.

Lectors serve the Lord in this way:

BEFORE WORSHIP

- Practice the reading at home by reading it, out loud, at least three times. Pay special attention to any strange names or difficult words. Readings are available at www.yaag.org. If you'd like a full-color poster listing all the readings for the church year, pick one up in the office.
- Arrive 15 minutes prior to worship to ensure everything is prepared and to take a few minutes to read and reflect on the text you'll be reading in worship.
- Ensure the lectionary is open to the appropriate page. Some readings are by church year date; others are by calendar date. Date ranges are listed on top of the page.
- Check the bulletin to see your reading. Make sure it matches the one written in the lectionary for today. (If not, ask the Pastor for clarification.)

DURING WORSHIP

- When it's time for your assigned reading, stand and proceed to the lectern.
- Announce the reading by saying, "A reading from (book), the (number) chapter."
- Speak clearly and naturally, neither being wooden nor dramatic. Speak as if you were talking to someone leaning against the back wall, with enough volume that they would clearly hear you. Pay special attention to the end of sentences, where the voice tends to drop off.
- **Do NOT embellish on the text, add commentary, improvise, or make any remarks.** As a lector, you present the Word exactly as it is written – no more, no less.
- Conclude your reading with whatever statement the worship folder indicates. (Usually: "This is the Word of the Lord," with the response of "Thanks Be to God.")