

## Our Savior's Lutheran Church Communion Server Responsibilities

Our Savior's Communion Servers go directly to the altar after the Pastor has completed the words of institution. The Communion Server's job is to assist the pastor in the distribution of the bread and wine. The duties vary whether communion is being served using wafers and individual cups <u>OR</u> by intinction (where communicants dip their wafer into a common cup of wine/grape juice).

## Communion Server Duties

- 1. Sanitize your hands with cleanser at the altar.
- 2. **Serving communion using wafers and individual cups** (usually at the traditional service in the sanctuary):
  - a. Two communion servers are needed along with the pastor. The pastor will distribute the communion wafers, one server will distribute the wine and the other server will carry the baskets for people to place their empty cups in.
  - b. One server takes a wine/grape juice tray and another server takes the empty basket for cups.
  - c. When distributing the wine/juice, hold the tray out for people to take a cup and say, "The blood of Christ shed for you."
  - d. Follow behind the pastor as he/she distributes the bread and you distribute the wine. When your tray is almost empty, replace it on the altar and grab a new tray.
  - e. The server with the basket will follow behind the server with the wine.
- 3. **Serving communion by intinction** (usually at the contemporary service in the CLC):
  - a. Two communion servers are needed at each communion station. There are usually 2 stations, so 3 servers are needed in addition to the pastor. One server distributes the wafers and one server distributes the wine/grape juice.
  - b. One server takes a plate of bread/wafers and another server takes a chalice of wine/grape juice. Both stand in the spot as directed by the pastor, with the server holding the bread/wafers standing such that he/she will be first to meet the people coming up to communion.
  - c. When distributing the bread/wafer, place a wafer in the hand of the congregant and say, "The body of Christ given for you." (Note: If they want a gluten free wafer, they will take one from the plate themselves which are located in the paper cup on the plate--they are slightly darker than the other wafers.)
  - d. The server distributing the bread/wafer is the one who gives children not partaking of communion a blessing. You can simply place the sign of the cross on their forehead and if you feel comfortable, you can also say the words "God loves you and forgives you."
  - e. When distributing the wine/juice, hold the chalices out for people to dip their wafer into and say, "The blood of Christ shed for you."
- 4. Once everyone has been served, go to the altar and serve communion to each other and then place the tray & basket OR plate & chalice back on the altar and return to your seats.

If you have any questions about serving communion, please ask the Pastor before worship and he/she will be happy to assist you.