

scripture reading

OVERVIEW

We believe that God speaks to us through the Bible and reading scripture is an integral part of our worship on Sundays. As this is true, we must make every effort to read in a manner that brings glory and honor to God. Our hope is that you will be as blessed by studying and reading God's word as we are in hearing it.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:1-5)

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. (Hebrew 4:12)

How We Schedule

Our scripture reader volunteers sign up to serve through our volunteer calendar. Occasionally a pastor will choose not to have a scripture reader and if this happens for a date you've signed up for, we will let you know asap.

On Sunday

Arrive 20 minutes before the service starts. During this time, we will perform a mic check and adjust the height of the stand. We will also review the flow of the service. You can also use this time to practice reading aloud.

If the reading occurs right before the sermon:

Please meet the worship coordinator backstage at the beginning of the offering. This will give you enough time to catch your breath and walk on stage comfortably.

If the reading occurs at any other time:

Confirm a meeting time with the worship coordinator and await a cue. A service may begin with scripture reading, so it is important to check with the worship coordinator about the order of worship.

Once on stage, introduce the passage "Our scripture for today's teaching comes from _____." Speak at a normal speaking volume and hold the microphone 2-3 inches from your mouth. After you have finished reading, say "This is God's word" and then exit stage left.

PREPARATION

Here are some tips to help you prepare for reading aloud:

Incorporate the passage into your prayer life. Read many times over and familiarize yourself with the passage. Ingest the words.

Read the passage slowly. Did something grab your attention? Reflect upon that word or phrase. Memorize or pray over it. Read the passage again.

Read the passage aloud and practice with someone.

SAMPLE PRACTICE ROUTINE

Day 1

- o Read the passage once through
- o Read again and make notes of words/phrase that cause you to stumble. Look up pronunciations if need be.
- o Pray over the text

Day 2

- o Read the passage slowly and be sure to check the words and phrases that you practiced previously. Use this run through to check for places to pause or words to emphasize.
- o Determine the voice and tone of the passage (Ex. Excited, celebratory, praise, mournful, despondent)
- o Pray over sections of the passage

Day 3

- o Read the passage all the way through out loud with emphasis and pauses.
- o Record yourself and listen for pacing, pronunciation and volume

