Communion Serving Ministry at University Lutheran Church of Hope

Thank you for being a communion server! This is an important role in worship and we hope it is a faith enriching experience for you.

You may be new to the ministry of have done it for years. In the past we have had informational notes that went along with the mailed reminders about Sunday worship duties. This is the third millennium edition which may be in your hands, but is also available on the church website (ulch.org) under "documents" and then "procedures". We want everyone to be comfortable in knowing what is expected of communion servers. So, here are the guidelines:

Arrive at worship in time to let the Altar Guild member(AGM) know you are there. This person is listed in the bulletin and can often be found in the sacristy. If you cannot find him/her, simply put a check mark by your name on the sacristy door.

Go to the sacristy during or just after the passing of the peace, wash your hands and be ready for instructions from the altar guild member.

You will be assigned or asked your preference in serving bread or grape juice. The pastor and assistant usually serve the wine. The bread is served first, followed by the wine and then grape juice. Most children and some adults will take grape juice. It is the server's responsibility to watch for those requesting grape juice.

When serving each communicant say the following: "The body of Christ given for you" or "The blood of Christ shed for you"

If you need more bread or grape juice, alert the AGM and they will assist you.

At the end of communion there may be a parishioner who needs to be communed in the pew. If so, a pastor may ask you to accompany her/him in this task.

When communion is over any leftover elements can be placed on the small table just outside the sanctuary or in the sacristy and then you can return to your pew.

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light" 1st Peter 2:9