

## GUIDELINES FOR READERS

The public reading of scripture is proclamation more than it is reading. To prepare for this important task, here are a few helpful steps.

1. Prepare ahead of time by reading the scriptures for the service. Ask yourself, “What is this reading about?” Spending time understanding the context of a bible passage makes it easier to communicate its meaning to worshipers.
2. Read the passage out loud so you hear how it sounds.
3. If you don’t know the pronunciation of a word, there is a lector’s guide to pronunciation in the library, on the top shelf just inside the door next to the organ. You may also ask the pastor. Also, if you get to the word and still are unsure, just “power through”. Hesitating or repeating the word only calls more attention to it.
4. We will read from the Bible on the lectern. Reading from the Bible communicates the importance of the scripture reading . Arrive early and make sure the Bible is at the correct reading. This is especially true for the second service as the page have been turned for the Gospel reading and may not have been reset.
5. Adjust the microphone so it picks up your voice (this can be done when you check the Bible test). Talk into the mic as if you are talking to the people in the front seats. You should hear your voice coming through the speakers loud and clear.
6. Slow down your reading. Assume you are talking too fast. This gives the congregation time to take in the reading. Remember you are talking to someone and not reading to them!
7. Read with emphasis, pausing at commas and/or periods. Your voice should rise with a question mark.