

Flushing Presbyterian Church

Guidelines for Serving Communion

(September 2002, revised September 2009, August 2012)

“When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him...”

-Luke 24:30-31a

Some salient quotes concerning the Lord’s Supper from the Confession of 1967:

“The Lord’s Supper is a celebration of the reconciliation of men with God and with one another, in which they joyfully eat and drink together at the table of their Savior. Jesus Christ gave his church this remembrance of his dying for sinful men so that by participation in it they have communion with him and with all who shall be gathered to him. Partaking in him as they eat the bread and drink the wine in accordance with Christ’s appointment, they receive from the risen and living Lord the benefits of his death and resurrection. They rejoice in the foretaste of the kingdom which he will bring to consummation at his promised coming, and go out from the Lord’s Table with courage and hope for the service to which he has called them.”

Preparing For the Service

Please arrive at the church at least 15 minutes before the start of service. The entire communion serving team will meet with the officiating minister in the pastor’s study to make sure of all last minute details. This is also the best opportunity to discuss individual assignments concerning the communion service. After this meeting, please feel free to be seated in the congregation.

Gathering to Serve

During the communion hymn, please leave your seat in the congregation and gather in the Narthex of the Church. As the hymn is sung, proceed to the first pew at the foot of the pulpit.

Serving Communion by Passing Trays

Following the Words of Institution and the blessing, the officiating minister will indicate to the gathered servers to stand and to approach the Lord’s Table. The minister will hand out the trays of bread to each of the servers. Wait until all have their tray and then begin serving by pews as indicated in the drawing on the back. After all have been served, leave all the trays in the Narthex unless instructed otherwise, and process together to the front pew. When all are in the front pew, the minister will indicate to be seated and then will serve the group. This will be repeated for the wine trays as well.

Serving Communion by Intinction

Following the Words of Institution and the blessing, the officiating minister will indicate to the gathered servers to stand and approach the Lord’s Table. The minister will hand a cup with wine and a plate with ½ loaf of bread on it to the two servers on the left and another set the two servers on the right. They will turn and face the congregation with the bread toward the center and the wine chalices toward the outside. The congregation will come forward in two lines, pull off a piece of bread and dip it into the wine chalice. After all have come forward, the minister will return the elements to the communion table. The servers will be seated in the front pew. The

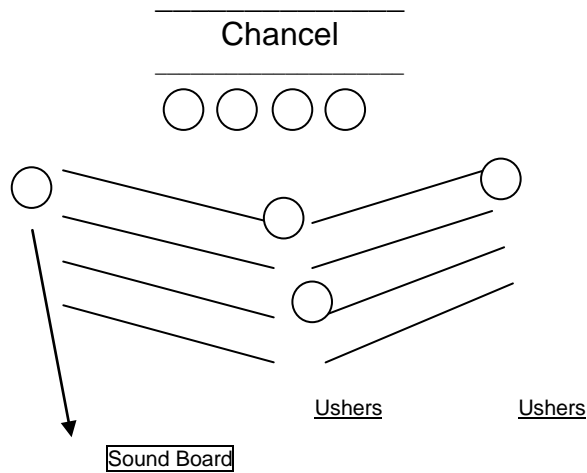
minister will then serve the group, followed by any in the congregation that could not come forward.

Leaving the Service

Following the benediction, the officiating minister will pause in front of your pew allowing the serving group to exit in front of him/her. Please recess up the aisle to the Narthex.

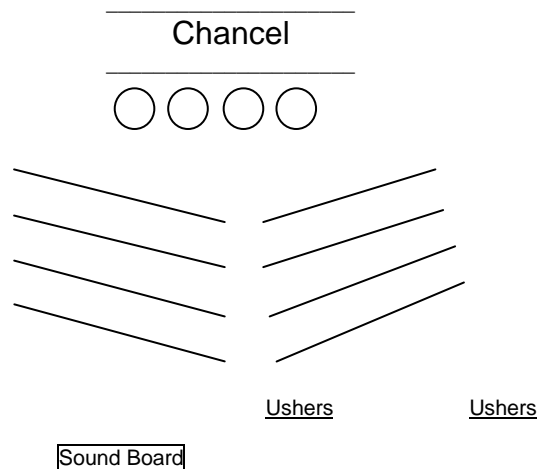
Thank you for your assistance in this meaningful and important aspect of our worship.

Communion by Passing Trays



Note: #1 serves Sound Board operator
#2, #3, #4 serve ushers

Communion by Intinction



Note: #1 and #4 hold wine
#2 and #3 hold bread

A meaningful and important aspect of our worship.